

BRISTOL FASHION

City that sets its own trends

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HONEYMOON

Bill Clinton's 100 White House days

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THE TIMES

No. 64,630 WEDNESDAY APRIL 28 1993 45p

Business leaders attack Tories over economy

■ The recession is over — or is it? Stinging attacks on the government from the ultra-loyal Institute of Directors suggest caution should be the keyword

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BUSINESS leaders punctured the euphoria of ministers proclaiming the end of the recession yesterday, declaring that the economy was recovering in spite of government policy not because of it, and that it could still be killed off.

In an attack reminiscent of the CBI's "bare-knuckled fight" of the eighties, the Institute of Directors' director-general said the government had got things wrong at almost every turn and any recovery was "more or less over the dead bodies of the Treasury and the Bank of England".

Peter Morgan was backed by Sir Alastair Grant, chairman of the Argyll group, who accused the government of fundamental errors of judgment, and even the former industry secretary Lord Young of Graffham said the economy was still in "intensive care".



Ministers' discomfort at the attacks will be all the greater because they came from the ultra-loyal institute, which has been the source of many Consrrvative policies over the past two decades especially on union and tax reform.

The criticism centred not only on economic policy, but on the competence of John Major's government and on ministers' claims to be the architects of the recovery. "To think that after the pain of the early 80s, they let the Lawson boom rip," Mr Morgan said. "And to think that we went into the exchange-rate mechanism in the way we did when it was obvious to the IoD, and to others, that in its perversity, the ERM would deliver just the opposite of what was hoped for. It is a blinding revelation, is it not, that to the extent that we have a recovery today, it is more or less over the dead bodies of Bank and Treasury officials."

His criticisms were echoed by Sir Alistair, who said Norman Lamont should have "retired himself" after Britain was forced to pull out of the ERM. "Instead, we find him suggesting that in some curious way the new exchange rate and the lower interest rates were the result of policy — frankly that makes me quite uncomfortable.

"Twice the Tories have made fundamental errors of judgment in their conduct of the economy — too strong a foot on the accelerator in the latter part of the 80s — too savage a foot on the brakes in the early 90s." It was now up to the prime minister to display vision and leadership to take Britain into a period of sustained growth.

Even Lord Young said that the economic recovery now under way was fragile: "The patient is still in intensive care. We cannot afford any sudden shocks or swings of policy".

The fierce assault angered ministers, but Mr Major maintained his optimistic tone in spite of the brickbats. In the Commons he said British manufacturers now had the chance to break into new markets and win back old ones. "Manufacturing matters," he said. "Exporting matters. We are seeking to support them both."

The CBI meanwhile expressed cautious optimism over the economy. While government figures published this week showed output rising for the first time for two-and-a-half years, the CBI's industrial trends survey showed that output was still broadly flat.

While business confidence showed its sharpest increase for a decade, and industrialists expect output to rise, the CBI would only go as far as saying that the recovery was under way, adding that it would wait for at least three months before thinking about joining the government in proclaiming the end of the recession.

CBI optimism, page 21
IoD speeches, page 22

PRINCESS MAKES PLEA ON EATING DISORDERS

PETER SIMPSON



Call for understanding: the Princess of Wales addressing the conference yesterday

Children caught in 'spiral of despair'

BY JAMES LANDALE

CLEARLY echoing her own experience of bulimia, the Princess of Wales spoke yesterday of the "spiral of secret despair" felt by children suffering from eating disorders and called for greater understanding of the diseases.

Speaking in London at a conference on eating disorders, she said that illnesses such as anorexia and bulimia became a "shameful friend" to children trying to cope with difficult situations in their lives. Sufferers starve themselves to lose weight even while dangerously thin.

More children are suffering from anorexia nervosa than ever before, research has shown. About 40 anorexic children aged between eight and 14 are admitted to The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, in London, each year compared with two a year in 1983. Although only a tenth of adult sufferers are male, about a quarter of the children are boys. Some have lost up to half their body weight and about two fifths fail to make a full recovery.

The princess, who suffered from bulimia, a disease in which binge-eating is followed by self-induced vomiting, said that eating disorders were not an expression of female vanity. "Eating disorders, whether it be anorexia or bulimia, show how individuals can turn the nourishment of the body into a painful attack on themselves and they have at the core a far deeper problem than mere vanity," she said. "Eating disorders are on the increase at a disturbing rate, affecting a growing number of men and women and a growing number of children, too."

She told the conference of

Continued on page 2, col 4

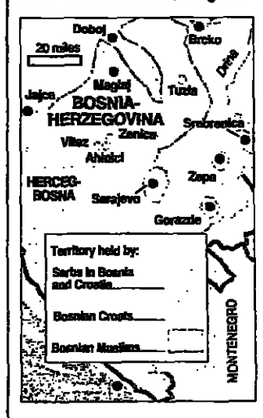
Alan Hamilton, page 14

RAF prepares to join Nato bombing raids against Serbs

BY MICHAEL EVANS AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

DETAILED planning for RAF aircraft to join a Nato mission bombing Serb targets was nearing completion last night as President Yeltsin fell into line with President Clinton and declared that the time had come for decisive measures to halt the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

But as the move towards tougher action gathered pace, military chiefs on both sides of the Atlantic voiced strong doubts about launching air strikes. Field Marshal Sir Richard Vincent, chairman of Nato's military committee, said soldiers risked being stuck in the former Yugoslav



republic "halfway through the next century", and Admiral David Jeremiah, vice-chairman of America's joint chiefs of staff, said there could be no quick and painless action.

Mr Clinton has said that he will announce within days his plan of action to force the Serbs to sign the Vance-Owen peace plan. "It is now clear that the United States and our allies need to move forward with a stronger policy," he said. With the Russian referendum out of the way, Mr Yeltsin also made clear that the Serbs could not expect Russian protection if they resisted the will of the world community, adding: "The time has come for decisive measures to quell the conflict."

Mr Yeltsin's defence and foreign ministers, however, distanced themselves from any move to sever Russia's historical bond with Serbia, urging the international community to avoid "unilateral, unreasoned and violent actions".

Such qualms over intervention, long expressed by Britain and France, were emphasised in Brussels, where Sir Richard told a meeting of Nato's national chiefs of staff: "For God's sake, decide what you're trying to achieve before you go out." Any action in the Balkans needed a clear political aim. "The military out there are a means to an end. They are not an end in themselves. If we go out on the basis that we're an end in ourselves, we will be there halfway through the next century."

The meeting did not formally discuss air strikes because Nato has received no official request to act for the UN, but Mr Clinton's determination to take stronger action is forcing member states to plan for bombing missions. A squadron of Tornado GR1s, equipped with laser targeting equipment, is being recommended as the most potent force, possibly with Buccaneer aircraft from RAF Lossiemouth as back-up. Jaguars from RAF Coltishall in Norfolk could also be sent if troops needed close air support.

Although it has been suggested that the launch of air strikes would necessarily mean the end of the humanitarian aid operation in Bosnia,

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Peter Riddell, page 10
Yeltsin repays West, page 11
Letters, page 16

Police have bomb suspect descriptions

BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT AND RICHARD FORD

THREE IRA suspects were described in the terrorist alert flashed to all police forces by the special branch on the eve of the Bishopsgate bombing last Saturday. Police are resisting calls to make public the detailed descriptions.

Scotland Yard has confirmed yesterday's disclosure in *The Times* that there had been a specific bomb alert before the explosion which killed *News of the World* photographer Edward Henty but has refused to breach security by giving other details contained in the confidential memorandum.

Press reports criticising their refusal to release the detailed descriptions and the fact that the bombers got through to the City of London despite the warning have infuriated senior officers. One said last night: "It's a bit thick being criticised for not having intelligence and then when we do get some, being slated for not releasing sensitive material."

A meeting of chief constables yesterday called for new police powers to mount stop-and-search roadblocks if, in a local chief constable's assessment, there is a risk of a terrorist attack. Existing powers allow vehicle checks only if there is "reasonable suspicion that a crime has been committed". The chief constables also discussed growing calls from local authorities for massive increases of closed-circuit security cameras in towns and cities.

In the wake of criticism of the relationship between MI5 and the police and the number of agencies involved in the fight against terrorism, Brian Johnston, chairman of the terrorism committee of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said: "The co-ordination in our efforts against terrorism has never been better."

The inquest into the death of Mr Henty, 34, was told yesterday that his body was found 20 yards from the blast inside a devastated bank. Dr Peter Vanezis, a pathologist, told the hearing at the City of London coroners court that Mr Henty died from multiple injuries and would have been killed instantly. Mr Henty's widow, Yasmin, placed a bouquet of colourful flowers on the spot where her husband's body was found. "I've lost my oldest and dearest friend," she said.

Up to 10 people arrested on Monday were still being detained and questioned under the Prevention of Terrorism Act last night.

Church campaign, page 3
Simon Jenkins and Diary, page 16
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Battered NatWest, page 22

Teachers berate exam advisers

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION REPORTER

TEACHERS accused government examination advisers of gross incompetence yesterday after the first geography tests for seven-year-olds were sent to schools up to three months late.

The delay put the tests for 600,000 pupils in jeopardy and fuelled teachers' dissatisfaction as two unions balloted their members to join the boycott of national curriculum tests this summer.

The School Examinations and Assessment Council, (Seac), which is responsible for developing and distributing the tests, said the hold-up was a matter of considerable regret. A spokesman acknowledged that the late arrival meant teachers were unlikely to use many of the geography tests this term as intended.

The episode is an embarrassment to John Patten, the education secretary, as he fights to safeguard this summer's tests for children at seven, 11 and 14 against opposition from all six teaching unions. Minsters privately blame the council for triggering the dispute with its inept handling of English tests for 14-year-olds.

The geography tests were scheduled for distribution to 20,000 primary schools in England and Wales at the beginning of February, to be completed between the spring and summer half-terms. But the council did not send any until just before the Easter holiday — with at least one in ten receiving them only last week — cutting time available by half. They involve up to ten assessments for each child lasting 20 minutes each.

Although the tests are optional, the council expects teachers to use them in drawing up their annual marks for

Continued on page 2, col 8

Senate advised to strip Andreotti of immunity

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

GIULIO Andreotti's day of judgment appeared to be dawning at last yesterday when an Italian senate committee recommended that his parliamentary immunity from prosecution be lifted so that he can face prosecution for alleged collusion with the Mafia.

The decision must be approved in a secret vote by a full session of the upper house of parliament next month, but committee recommendations in such cases are usually accepted. Signor Andreotti, the elder statesman of Italian post-war politics and former prime minister, claims that Mafia supergrasses are plotting to discredit him.

Yesterday's committee decision came as Guido Azeglio Ciampi, a non-parliamentarian, prepared to take over as prime minister to bring in the electoral reforms Italians hope will begin a new political era free of corruption.

Andreotti's armour, page 13

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Banks the unprintable in pursuit of the unspeakable foxhunters

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Famed for his colourful language, Labour's anti-hunting Tony Banks was unborn when Oscar Wilde called foxhunters "the unspeakable in pursuit of the uneatable". Now, Banks chases the chasers: the unprintable in pursuit of the unspeakable in pursuit of the uneatable.

Banks was back in the saddle yesterday, urging his Fox Hunting (Abolition) Bill upon MPs. He was nearly unhorsed before he started — by a point of order from young Alan Duncan, the Tory foxcub from Rutland and Melton, who complained about the long title of the measure: "a bill to make the hunting of foxes with dogs illegal". As every countryman knew, yapped Duncan, you hunt foxes with hounds, not dogs. Madam Speaker did not think that this ruled Banks's bill out of order, and let him proceed.

As he rose, some wag on the Tory side with that gift for making funny noises with pursed lips which makes a boy a hero at infants' school but is rarely useful in cabinet, achieved a sort of trumpeting sound, a simulated hunting horn. Nobody was sure who was doing it, but it caused widespread giggles. Banks was undeterred. The rules permitted him ten minutes to make his case, and he galloped off at a cracking pace.

The pace never slackened; indeed, what his argument lacked in rationality it made up for in vigour. Critics may complain that Mr Banks rather undermined his central contention by the manner in which he contended it. The contention was that the pursuit of foxes brutalises those who join it; but so aggressive was his argument and so violent his language that we gathered that the anti-hunting brigade brutalises its adherents, too. Wild-eyed and angry, Banks's face seemed contorted with hatred for those of his countrymen whom he variously described as "disgusting", "sick" and "perverts". He would not choose such people for close friends, he said. They were "on a continuum which ends up in the Bosnian massacres".

The benign Nicholas Soames, food minister, picture of cordiality and keen huntsman, looked at Banks in mild surprise. Where Banks in a rage would make a halfway convincing Serb, it was very hard to imagine Mr Soames on a continuum to a Bosnian massacre, or any other kind of massacre, except perhaps of the sherry trifle.

Any continuum that Soames was on would have to be a reinforced one. Anyway, he is too much of a gentleman to use a word like continuum. Forced to guess its meaning, he would hazard that a continuum is what you get from eating oysters in a month with no 'r'.

Banks pressed on. Having slandered the hunter, he flattered the fox. It seems that these fluffy creatures have been maligned. Mostly they see their role as auxiliary refuse-collectors. They only take lambs, suggested Banks, when the lambs are dead, or at least terribly ill — a sort of ambulance service, specialists in ovine euthanasia.

Foxes eat beetles, mainly, added Banks. He did not mention rabbits, but we assume foxes spend their evenings frolicking with them, or bunnysitting while Mr and Mrs Rabbit go to the theatre.

The hard edge to the Labour MP's voice dissolved as he spoke of the real nature of foxes. He began to sound quite tender. Perhaps a socialist, having failed to fit his theories to human behaviour, turns to the animal world in pursuit of the gentleness that he has lost, and found lacking in his fellow men?

NEWS IN BRIEF

Three cleared after police discredited

Three men convicted of robbery and jailed for five years were cleared in the Court of Appeal yesterday after it was told that interviews in which the men admitted the crime had been rewritten by officers of the discredited West Midlands serious crimes squad.

Raymond Fryer, 35, and Adolphus Francis, 32, had already been released after being convicted in 1987 of a £12,000 raid on a bank in Birmingham. Elvis Jeffers, 36, is in custody on another matter. All are from Birmingham.

Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, said the only evidence against the men was the admissions they were alleged to have made during interview. The men always claimed the admissions were fabricated.

Wife-strangler gets life

A husband who strangled his wife and then threw her body into a disused cesspit was jailed for life yesterday. Philip Cattermole, 45, of Iver Heath, Buckinghamshire, kept up the pretence of a distraught husband for five weeks after his wife Susan, 47, disappeared, repeatedly weeping down the phone to her relatives. Her body was found when police brought sniffer dogs to the couple's house, the jury at Reading Crown Court was told. Cattermole was arrested the day before he was to make an appeal on television.

Littering fine reduced



Vaughan Watkins, 20, fined £1,200 for dropping an empty crisp packet, yesterday had his penalty cut to £48 after saying he had £4-a-week disposable income. Watkins, right, who receives £67 dole a fortnight, won an appeal against the fine imposed by magistrates at Cwmbran, Gwent. The sentence fuelled controversy over how fines are means-assessed under the Criminal Justice Act.

City leader to resign

The Labour leader of Birmingham City Council is to resign in September after ten years' service. Sir Richard Knowles, 75, said in a statement yesterday: "There needs to be changes. I believe the time has now arrived, but I believe these changes should be divorced from the battle for the leadership." He will continue as a backbench councillor.

Robber kills himself

An armed robber killed himself in a town centre yesterday after being cornered by passers-by. He turned a sawn-off shotgun on himself when he was trapped at the bottom of some basement steps after snatching a bag containing thousands of pounds from Peter Rigg, 43, a businessman, outside a bank in Todmorden, West Yorkshire.

Public loses faith in BBC as Birt faces new storm

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC was plunged into turmoil again yesterday after press reports that John Birt, the director general, has demanded a pay increase of about £40,000, less than two months after a public outcry over his tax avoidance scheme led to calls for his resignation.

The revelations coincide with an opinion poll published in *The Times* today which indicates that public confidence in the BBC has been severely shaken by the row over Mr Birt's finances.

The MORI poll carried out for *The Times* shows that one in three people believes the BBC is not a well-managed organisation, compared with about one in five people who held that view in January.

In a simultaneous attempt to restore popular faith in the corporation, Marmaduke Hussey, the BBC chairman, last night attacked the quality of reporting in Fleet Street newspapers, in particular the tabloid press.

Delivering the inaugural Goodman Lecture on the media at University College, London, Mr Hussey accused the tabloids of abandoning the three most important words in the English language, "truth, beauty and justice".

With only two days to go until the deadline for responses to the government's green paper on the future of the BBC, the latest developments are bound to cause fresh controversy for the corporation, which is fighting to retain its right to be funded by licence fees when its royal charter comes up for renewal in 1996.

The BBC yesterday refused to confirm or deny allegations that Mr Birt has negotiated a salary of £185,000 to £195,000 a year, representing a significant increase over the pay of his predecessor Sir Michael Checkland, who received a package worth nearly £150,000. The BBC released a statement nearly 24 hours after the story broke, saying the figures for Mr Birt's salary quoted in the press were "untrue".

Mr Birt said last night that the report in the *Financial Times* that he was to be paid more than £185,000 a year was not true. "Neither the salary nor the circumstances are at all true."

He was able to avoid significant amounts of tax on his pay by working on a freelance contract for six years as deputy director general. Despite announcing his intention to join the staff of the BBC in a letter to *The Times* at the beginning of March, two months after taking up his post, Mr Birt has not yet formally signed a staff contract.

Although any increase Mr Birt receives over the salary of his predecessor is most likely to be a straightforward attempt to avoid the "pensions cap trap" faced by all highly paid executives in Britain who started employment after the introduction of new pensions legislation in 1988, it is likely to cause disquiet among BBC staff, whose average pay lags far behind the commercial sector.

Under the 1988 pensions rules, the maximum pensionable benefits for new employees are limited to the first £75,000 of salary — about half of what Mr Birt was earning on his freelance contract.

These subtleties, however, are likely to be lost on BBC staff, who received an average pay rise of 4.3 per cent last year.

Tony Lennon, president of the broadcasting union Bectu, said: "Given the austerity measures that are being forced on BBC programme makers at the moment, it is unacceptable that the bureaucracy at the top appear to be treating themselves to a pay bonanza."

In attempting to defend the role of the corporation last night, Mr Hussey said the process of clarifying and separating the roles of BBC governors and the management was "almost complete".

He pledged to transform the BBC's annual report into "a document which clearly and succinctly summarises both the management's review and the governors' assessment of the BBC's performance. We will be honest and self-critical," he said.

Mr Hussey said the BBC was the "only stable element in an increasingly volatile and competitive newspaper and broadcasting environment".

Media, page 28

JONATHAN BAINBRIDGE



Hats off to Japan: Michael Heseltine, the President of the Board of Trade, opening a Honda motor plant yesterday at Swindon, Wiltshire, which will employ 2,000. Earlier, he told a Commons committee that he is remodelling his department on Japanese lines to give companies more private expertise

Teachers berate exam advisers

Continued from page 1

children's progress, which schools are required to give to parents. A spokesman said devising the tests had proved more complicated. "We decided we ought to go for quality rather than produce something on the original timetable which was not wholly satisfactory." Mr Patten was "very supportive" of the decision.

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said the delay was like handing sea charts to the captain of a ship after it had docked. He said: "The government is the best propaganda weapon the teaching organisations have got. Its incompetence and carelessness with our children's future proves it is not fit to have total control over testing."

Peter Smith, general secretary of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, said he was seeking an urgent meeting with Mr Patten. "This is graphic evidence of the sort of problems teachers are complaining about and have lost patience with."

Anne Barnes, a teacher coordinating the tests at Castletown primary school, Sunderland, said the exercise was ridden with confusion.

"The first inkling we had about these tests was when they arrived at the start of the summer term. Seac was unable to answer queries about them at meetings last term," she said. The tests, which required teachers to make up to 49 separate assessments for each child, were complicated and likely to be squeezed off the timetable because of their late arrival.

The education department said the delay "was entirely a matter for Seac".

In the Commons, John Major backed Mr Patten after John Smith, the Labour leader, demanded the suspension of this summer's tests. Mr Major said it was not proper for teachers to take industrial action.

Teenage tearaways to be locked up

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

DETAILS of tough powers to control disruptive children and offenders in local-authority care will be published today as part of the government's crackdown on teenage tearaways.

Social workers looking after young people in care will be allowed to use restraint to prevent children running away from homes, or those who threaten to harm themselves or staff in homes and secure accommodation.

Staff will be able to lock up children at night in extreme cases where there is a danger they will go on the rampage, causing injury and damage, or are at risk of absconding. They will also be allowed to grab hold of a child's arm or restrain a youngster against a wall if verbal appeals from social workers have failed to prevent misbehaviour.

The guidance will be welcomed by social workers, who have been in a dilemma as to how to control children. Many have been wary of using restraint since the "pindown" controversy in Staffordshire, where control slipped into physical abuse.

David Jones, general secretary of the British Association of Social Workers, said last night: "We are looking for clarity about what social workers can and cannot do to restrain children."

Tim Yeo, junior health minister, will unveil the new guidance at a press conference in the health department today. He will emphasise that the new powers will apply only when a child is believed to be about to injure himself or others or cause damage to property.

Ministers ordered officials to draft tougher guidelines after criticism by social workers that staff in residential homes had little power to stop youngsters absconding. Demands for more powers have been fuelled by a series of high-profile cases in which authorities have been powerless to stop persistent juvenile offenders running away from homes to which they have been sent by the courts.

In one case in Tyne and Wear in February, two teenage boys went on the rampage in a stolen car two hours after they had been placed in local authority care, accused of mugging a pensioner. One of the boys, aged 14, had more than 40 convictions, but under existing rules social workers were powerless to prevent him running away.

The draft guidelines, issued last summer, angered many staff in homes as they said they should not physically prevent youngsters from absconding, even if they were suspected of prostitution, drug abuse or crime. The guidance said that while staff could stand in the way of a youngster trying to leave, they should not restrain him if he brushed past "unless there is immediate danger".

If a youngster fled to the street, the guidance said he should not be chased "beyond a short sprint", nor rugby-tackled. The British Association of Social Workers said its members working in residential care wanted guidelines.

Eating disorders 'not vanity'

Continued from page 1

400 medical experts at Kensington Town Hall that, although research was still in its infancy, the seeds of the disease might lie in childhood and the self-doubts and uncertainties accompanying adolescence. "Feelings of guilt, of self-revulsion and low personal esteem," she said, made children want to "dissolve like a Disprin and disappear".

The illness became their "shameful friend". "By focusing their energies on controlling their bodies, they had found a refuge from having to face the more painful issues at the centre of their lives," she added. "A way of coping, albeit destructively, but a way of coping with a situation they were finding unbearable."

With the help of such hospitals as Great Ormond Street, and the love of their families, some sufferers get better. "Sadly, for others it will be too late: yes, people are dying from eating disorders," the princess said. "As parents, teachers, family and friends, we have an obligation to care for our children. To encourage and guide, to nourish and nurture, and to listen with love to their needs in ways which clearly show our children that we value them. They in their turn will then learn how to value themselves."

Help was needed immediately. "With greater awareness and more information, these people, who are locked into a spiral of secret despair, can be reached before the disease takes over their lives," she said. About 60,000 people are known to suffer from eating disorders in Britain.

Dr Bryan Lask, consultant psychiatrist at Great Ormond Street, said the speech would "raise the profile of eating disorders and draw attention to the problem and, most important, the need for specialist resources". He said that anorexia must always be taken seriously and gave a warning that there was a shortage of suitable treatment facilities.

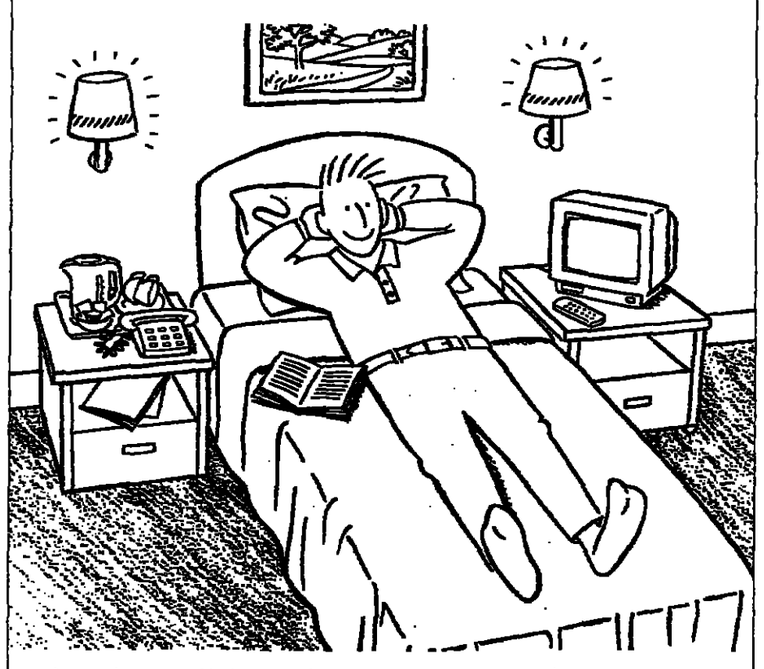
Wendy Sharman, a sister in the Great Ormond Street eating disorders unit, said: "It helps to have a person of her significance at a conference like this."

Alan Hamilton, page 14

CORRECTION

A report (January 14) referring to the deaths of two French soldiers in Sarajevo should have said that the men were killed by Bosnian Muslims, and not, as stated, by Serbs.

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Pressure mounts to rebuild City church wrecked by bomb

BY RUTH GLEDHILL AND SHEILA GUNN

A campaign is swelling for what remains of the medieval St Ethelburga's church to become a symbol of triumph over terrorism

THE Church of England is facing strong public pressure, led by MPs and peers, to restore the tiny St Ethelburga's Bishopgate church which was destroyed by the IRA bomb in the City of London at the weekend. Many people want the church to be rebuilt, possibly as a shrine to the victims of terrorism.

Hopes that the church could be restored were set back when church leaders said it was too badly damaged. English Heritage said rebuilding would be "not a restoration but a replica".

However, there was strong support at parliament for St Ethelburga's to be rebuilt. Patrick Cormack, chairman of the Conservative party advisory committee on arts and heritage, said: "It would be wholly appropriate to restore it, if nothing else as a monument to all those who have perished at the hands of these evil people."

Lord Harris of Greenwich, Liberal Democrat spokesman on home affairs and a former Home Office minister, has tabled a question to the government asking for help towards restoring St Ethelburga's and the other churches damaged by the Bishopsgate bomb.

The national heritage department said that as the church was a Grade I listed building, the City corporation must decide whether to require the owners to restore the building. Until that was done, the government was not involved.

One public relations company offered to run a free fund-raising appeal to help rebuild the church. But the first archaeologist to assess the damage said yesterday that St Ethelburga's had been destroyed.

Church leaders are considering incorporating the remains of the devastated medieval church in a monument or commemorative chapel to the victims of terrorism.

The Ven George Cassidy, Archdeacon of London, said: "The tragedy is that we could never reconstitute it."

The city's church heritage has been irreparably damaged by the IRA, with only two medieval churches surviving untouched, according to Dr John Schofield, of the Museum of London archaeology service. He completed his first report yesterday after a day-long survey of the three most damaged churches. The London diocese of the Church of England is this week considering what can be salvaged.

Of the 39 churches in the square mile, only five were medieval and survived the second world war. St Ethelburga's, founded in 1250 and rebuilt in 1390, was the smallest and took the full force of Saturday's blast.

The church was valued last year at £2 million, but an insurance policy introduced after last year's bomb reduced terrorist cover on the building to £100,000. The church was due to be converted into a chapel of ease.

The bomb exploded immediately outside St Ethelburga's and reduced to a pile of rubble all but the east wall, half the north and south walls and one arch of the medieval arcade. The west wall and the interior, including a 17th century stained glass window, have completely gone.

The church will not be lost without a fight. Tony Kilmister, chairman of the Prayer Book Society, said: "Terrorism must not win. God must triumph in every situation. Never, never, never must he come off second best. That includes not letting terrorism triumph at St Ethelburga's."

If the church is not rebuilt, one problem will be the disposal of £30,000-a-year income from funds left to the church by Robert Kitchin in 1557. The diocese will consult the Council for the Care of Churches before deciding on the future of St Ethelburga's.



Ruined: St Ethelburga's now has only one full wall

Science Museum recruits schoolchildren for space mission

SIMON WALKER



Future architect: Rachel McConnell, 12, of Alderholt, Dorset, at the Science Museum in London yesterday with the model of a space city that she designed. Her entry came first among 5,000 entries for a competition held by the museum and BBC Television's *Newsround* programme and wins her a week at the Alabama space centre. Paul Jones, 14, of Northwich, Cheshire, was second and Alex Wootton, 10, of Crickhowell, Powys, came third

Staff pay price of hold-ups

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

ROBBERIES of banks and building societies have more than doubled since 1989, with over 1,800 last year causing growing long-term distress to staff victims, according to figures released yesterday by the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union.

The worst-hit areas, accounting for half the national total, were London (30 per cent of robberies), the West Midlands (8 per cent), Greater Manchester (8 per cent) and Avon (4 per cent). There was also a significant increase in violent robbery in rural areas — a finding in line with general crime trends in shire counties.

Ray Shuttleworth, secretary to the union's security committee, said: "Staff are often reluctant to confess that they are terrified or to share their feelings. Many suffer in silence." He said that raids, now numbering about seven every working day, were increasingly violent and that victims often faced long-term trauma.

The union called for improved care for victims of robberies, whose distress can sometimes cost them their jobs, and a ban on the advertising and sale of replica guns. Reintroduction of counter screens and significant improvements in staff training — including how to deal with extortion, hostage-taking and the handling of bulk cash deliveries — are also being sought from the financial institutions.

Criminals are using real hand-guns and shotguns more frequently but there is also a considerable risk from knives and chemicals, said the union, which represents over 150,000 people throughout the financial services industry.

Last year, there was a 12 per cent increase in robbery over 1991, including 940 raids on building societies and 842 on banks in a total of 1,826, which also includes attacks on security delivery guards. Nearly every incident involved a weapon or a replica. The figures are derived from information from staff, news and police sources.

The union's report was in response to a new year consultation document on armed robbery by the Health and Safety Executive. The executive said that it planned to issue definitive guidance this year.

Baby found alive after siege ends in murder

BY RICHARD DUCE

A YEAR-OLD baby was rescued crying but well yesterday when armed police entered a house after a five-hour siege and found the bodies of his grandparents.

The dead couple, believed to be in their late forties, had died from shotgun wounds. Police were called to the house in Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, after reports that the grandfather had entered the home of his estranged wife with a shotgun.

Divorce proceedings were under way between the couple and the man was on bail awaiting trial at Norwich Crown Court on charges of threatening to kill his wife.

After trained siege negotiators tried for five hours to make contact with the couple, police entered the terraced house at 7am. The deaths are being treated as murder and suicide. The woman had been shot in the head and the man died from a shotgun wound to his chest.

Neighbours saw the baby's mother run from the house after her father arrived and she called the police. Barry Mason, a neighbour, said: "I could hear the baby banging on the wall. The walls are paper-thin and I heard the child crying all night."

Police said that they would not identify the dead couple until today and that no one else was being sought in connection with the incident. An inquest will be held.

Champion returns to form

BY JOHN SHAW

AFTER spending more than 30 years in various garden sheds, the bones of a racing legend finally return to a fitting resting place at the National Horse Racing Museum, Newmarket, next month.

The skeleton of Hyperion, one of the most influential stallions in British racing, has been reassembled by the Animal Health Trust, 33 years after its death in 1960. It will be unveiled next month by Peter Stanley, nephew of Lord Derby, the horse's owner, and will then go on show at the High Street museum.

Hyperion was a racing legend and won the Derby and St Leger for Lord Derby in 1933. The animal stood as a stallion for 25 years, in six of which it was champion sire in Britain and Ireland but, suffering from an inflammation of a thin layer of sensitive tissue in the hoof, it was put down aged 30.

Its body was sent to the trust for a post-mortem examination and the bones were cleaned, but it was not until last year that Dr Andrew Higgins, the trust's director, arranged for Hyperion to be professionally reassembled.

Girl seeks freedom to leave adopters

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A THIRTEEN-year-old girl who launched an unprecedented legal challenge to break away from her adoptive parents appealed yesterday against a judge's order effectively blocking her action.

The case is thought to be the first in which a child has tried to use the Children Act 1989 to end a failed relationship with adopters. The girl wants to live with an aunt at the home of her natural father's parents, with whom she has kept in touch.

Last November, a district judge in Bristol gave the girl leave to seek a residence order, after accepting that she had sufficient maturity and understanding to bring the action.

However, her adoptive parents took the case to the High Court, where Mr Justice Thorpe made her a ward of court, with the Official Solicitor as her legal guardian. This effectively took away her right to instruct lawyers and take action under the Children Act, which came into force in 1991.

The girl's Court of Appeal application raises questions over what lawyers see as conflict between old-style wardship proceedings and the act's provisions for a child of sufficient understanding to go to court for a ruling on its future.

The girl — referred to only as "C" — listened as her counsel, Miss Judith Parker QC, told the judges that she was currently with foster parents under a voluntary arrangement with her local authority.

"It is quite plain that this is an adoption placement which has broken down, even though the couple may have hopes that it can be mended in the future," Miss Parker said. "C wants to live with a member of her original family." The case continues today.

☐ Incompetent solicitors' clerks are no longer to be paid legal aid fees for advising suspects at police stations under a new licensing scheme announced by the Law Society and Legal Aid Board yesterday.

In the wake of damning research for the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice, which found suspects were often advised by untrained and inexperienced clerks, only those clerks who pass a competence test are to be paid under legal aid. The scheme will be brought in on October 1994.

Couple sue garden designer

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A LANCASHIRE couple won £20,000 in damages after their spectacular water and rock garden, designed by an award-winning gardener, turned out to be more of "a cross between a paddy field and a moat".

John and Joan Hoban paid Dougie Knight, 52, winner of a Chelsea Flower Show award, £25,000 to transform their one-acre garden in Ormskirk.

Making the award, Judge Lynch said: "The garden falls below the usual high standard of the defendant. The water runs down what looks like a set of roof tiles and would not score many points in a competition."

The Hobans said their garden flooded every time it rained and they had to turn on emergency pumps. Mrs Hoban, 39, said: "We chose this man because of his reputation. He said the Chelsea Flower Show was his shop window. We wanted something special, but it turned out to be a cross between a paddy field and a moat."

Mr Knight had said the flooding was caused by problems with the drains.

Directors blame insurance giant

INEFFICIENCY and policy poaching by Legal & General, the insurance company, helped to bring about the multi-million pound collapse of a company set up to help council house tenants to buy their homes, an Old Bailey jury was told yesterday.

It was alleged that the company not only failed to notify Homes Assured Corporation of the cancellation of insurance policies but caused considerable hardship to some of those who took out mortgages under the government's right to buy scheme.

Anthony Dobson, 59, of Chelsea, southwest London; Michael Robinson, 42, of Fulham, southwest London; and Keith Woodward, 56, of Wanstead, east London, all former directors of Homes Assured, deny fraudulent trading between November 1988 and August 1989.

In addition, Dobson denies two charges of procuring the execution of a valuable security by deception, and Woodward one charge of furnishing false information.

David Penry-Davey QC said Mr Woodward had made "tremendous efforts" to ensure the company's success. But he was up against a large number of difficulties from the start.

He said it quickly became clear that Legal & General, which had a tied agents agreement with Homes Assured, was "wholly incapable" of coping with the amount of work it had. Both Legal & General and, at a later stage, the Criterion Insurance Company, were "unable to keep Homes Assured properly informed of the proper level of cancellations". Mr Penry-Davey said. He claimed the insurance company's inability to process policy applications on time caused "considerable hardship" to home owners and led to further cancellations.

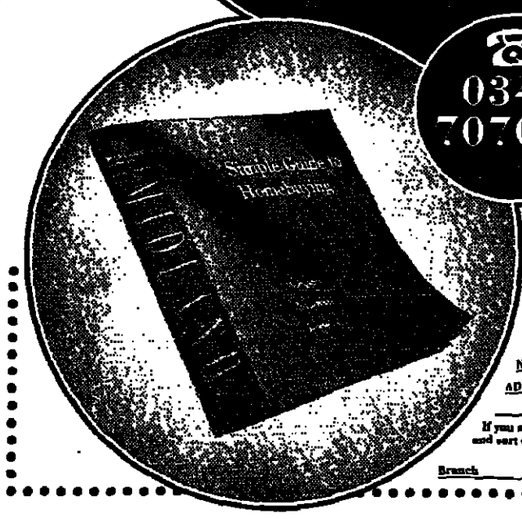
In addition, Legal & General "poached" policies from Homes Assured and "actively encouraged" the cancellation of many of them. "With hindsight, it is clear that the failure of the insurance companies in notifying Homes Assured of the cancellation of insurance policies was the main cause of the liquidation of the company," he said.

Nigel Myine QC, for Mr Robinson, also criticised Legal & General's "administrative problems". He said that after the agency agreement between the two companies ended, Legal & General "poached large numbers of salesmen from Homes Assured and went directly to its clients to persuade them to cancel their orders".

Mr Alan Tyrrell QC, for Mr Dobson, told the jury one of the issues it would have to consider was the prosecution's allegation that his client had "lied" about his own financial situation to secure £500,000 backing for his group. "There was no dishonesty and no lie," Mr Tyrrell said.

The trial continues today.

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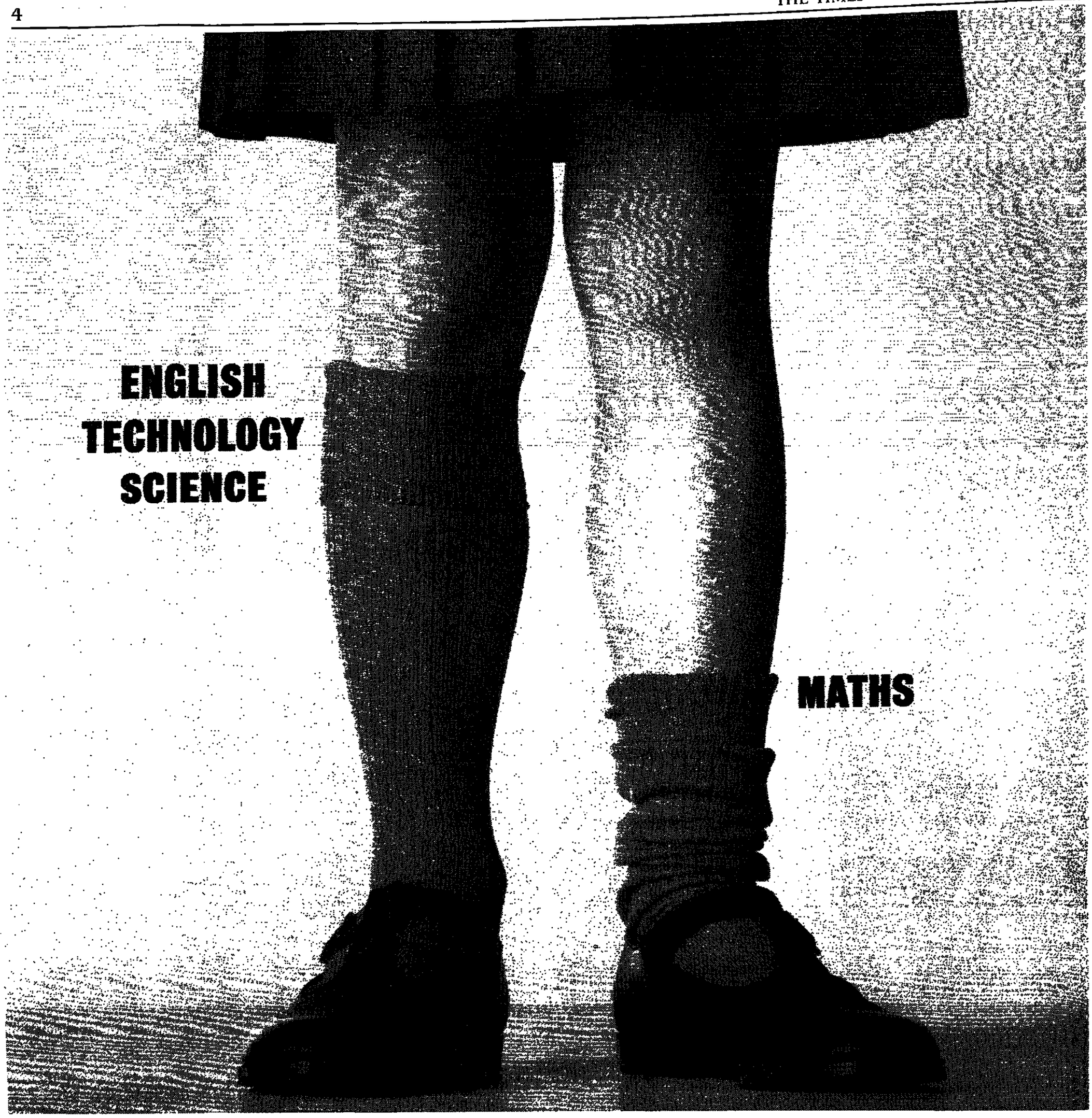
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For your copy, call free on **0500 10 10 11** (9.00am to 5.30pm) or complete and send the coupon to Department for Education, *How is Your Child Doing at School?*, Freepost EDO 3138, London E15 2BR.

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Minister urges caution on figures

Hospitals explain surgery death rate

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

HOSPITALS whose patients have high death rates after general surgery offered a range of explanations yesterday for their poor showing.

The figures, taken from statistics on hospital performance issued to health authorities by the health department and published in yesterday's *Times*, showed that some hospitals had death rates after general surgery that were six times higher than others. There were also big variations in waiting times, and the number of operations cancelled.

Dr Brian Mawhinney, the health minister, said it would be a mistake to attach great significance to any one year's figures. "But if over time a trend emerges, that starts to tell you things."

Yorkshire regional health authority said the high death rates in hospitals in Pontefract, Grimsby and Scunthorpe, which ranged from 60 per cent to 95 per cent above the expected rate, could be explained by the slow development of the hospice movement in the region. Terminally ill patients were cured for in acute hospitals and classified as general surgery cases, pushing up the death rate.

Pontefract General Infirmary, whose death rate was the highest in the country, said a mistaken figure of 32 deaths had been recorded. The actual number of deaths was nine, which, compared with an expected figure of 16.57 based on the ages of the patients it treats, would have given it one of the lowest death rates in the country. Managers could not explain the error.

"Looking at the three hospitals in our patch, there are clear reasons why they are in the bottom 10 per cent, which don't necessarily show that they are poor hospitals," a spokesman for Yorkshire regional health authority said.

Julie-Anne Wales, surgical business manager at the Princess Margaret Hospital in Swindon, whose death rate was 50 per cent above that expected, said: "We have a busy accident and emergency department and we are next to the M4."

David Symes, an NHS management consultant who has eight years' experience of working with performance indicators for health authorities, said managers tended to dismiss the indicators because the information was wrong, out of date or explained by local factors. But in 20 per cent of cases they disclosed something that managers did not know before.

The British Medical Association said it was concerned about information being inaccurate or open to misinterpretation and causing unnecessary worry to patients. "We can't all get on our bikes and go to Southampton [the hospital with the lowest death rate]," a spokesman said.

Thomas Suttaford, page 16
Leading article, page 17

DEATHS IN GENERAL SURGERY 1990-1

The table shows death rates in general surgery for adult patients under 65, where 100 is the expected rate based on the age of patients treated. Thus, Pontefract at the top of the table has a rate 95 per cent above that expected and SW Hampshire at the bottom has a rate only 29 per cent (less than one third) of that expected. No data available for Rugby, Solihull and Chorley.

District	Value above or below index of 100	District	Value above or below index of 100
Pontefract	195.53	N Manchester	100.19
Waltham Forest	193.75	S Derbyshire	99.62
Grimsby	191.32	Hull	97.89
Tower Hamlets	180.30	Liverpool	97.45
Doncaster	174.28	Leicestershire	97.33
Tameside	173.10	E Hertfordshire	96.97
Newham	173.02	Bromsgrove	96.85
Haringey	169.48	W Lambeth	95.07
E Birmingham	166.76	N Tees	94.53
Nottingham	163.97	Blackburn	94.01
Cheltenham	161.80	W Norfolk	91.40
Scunthorpe	161.35	Croydon	91.00
Barnsley	159.81	Huntingdon	90.18
Wolverhampton	158.01	SW Durham	90.01
Sandwell	156.97	S Lincolnshire	89.59
W Essex	155.19	Salop	89.50
Burnley	155.00	Stockport	89.48
Swindon	150.64	Hastings	88.91
Cntrl Notts	144.79	Bolton	88.08
Warrington	144.59	Wakefield	87.54
N Staffordshire	143.48	S Cumbria	86.47
E Yorkshire	143.26	N Bedfordshire	85.53
Blackpool & Wyre	143.05	E Berkshire	85.26
Rotherham	142.56	W Lancashire	85.05
W Birmingham	142.21	Chester	84.35
Southend	140.15	Frenchay	83.99
Portsmouth	139.01	Trafford	83.76
S Tyneside	138.68	Cntrl Birmingham	82.89
N Warwickshire	138.20	Lewisham	82.08
City & Hackney	136.17	Northumberland	81.66
M Staffordshire	135.47	Wandsworth	81.46
Sheffield	135.07	Isle of Wight	80.80
Walsall	134.56	Kingston & Esher	78.48
Barking	133.55	Ealing	78.18
N Tyneside	132.75	NW Surrey	78.17
Great Yarmouth	132.54	Maidstone	78.02
S Birmingham	132.25	SW Hertfordshire	77.45
N Derbyshire	132.00	SE Kent	77.17
Torbay	130.49	Merton & Sutton	76.97
Hampstead	130.47	Bradford	76.88
Scarborough	129.99	Newcastle	76.40
Redbridge	129.38	Bath	74.55
NW Durham	129.37	Kettering	73.96
NE Essex	128.35	Basildon	73.10
Camberwell	127.47	Greenwich	72.18
Enfield	127.41	E Dorset	72.03
York	126.65	Plymouth	71.94
Darlington	125.76	Gloucester	71.75
Tunbridge Wells	125.15	Exeter	71.72
Wigan	124.51	Calderdale	71.38
Kidderminster	124.17	W Cumbria	70.72
Leeds E	124.15	Eastbourne	70.27
Bromley	123.24	Lancaster	70.13
N Hertfordshire	123.20	Milton Keynes	70.08
S Manchester	122.42	Northampton	69.43
Cornwall	122.34	Northallerton	68.08
Dudley	120.89	Basingstoke	67.85
Coventry	119.96	Bassetlaw	65.35
N Lincolnshire	119.95	South Sefton	65.19
Cambridge	119.53	Mid Surrey	65.10
W Dorset	119.31	Mid Downs	63.91
Bury	119.10	Southmead	63.14
Gateshead	118.12	Bexley	61.25
Salford	117.74	Bloomsbury	60.34
Barnet	115.15	Salisbury	59.89
Brighton	114.88	Hereford	57.98
N Birmingham	113.67	E Suffolk	57.66
Worcester	113.20	E Cumbria	57.40
S Warwickshire	112.73	Dartford	56.90
E Surrey	112.37	W Surrey	56.84
W Berkshire	112.30	Wycombe	56.70
Harrogate	111.86	Norwich	55.40
Sunderland	111.27	Preston	54.88
SE Staffordshire	111.21	Parkside	54.74
W Suffolk	110.09	Hartlepool	54.09
Peterborough	109.95	S Tees	53.73
Somerset	109.21	SW Surrey	52.83
Oldham	108.82	N Devon	52.23
Medway	108.50	Halton	52.12
Bristol & Weston	108.20	Aylesbury	51.67
S Bedfordshire	106.09	Macclesfield	51.65
Crewe	105.59	Richmond	50.15
Durham	105.38	Leeds W	49.75
Wirral	104.87	Mid Essex	49.36
Rochdale	103.23	Cntrl Manchester	48.70
Huddersfield	103.02	Southport	47.94
NW Hertfordshire	102.60	Hillingdon	46.65
Canterbury	102.54	Oxfordshire	40.50
St Helens	102.12	Worthing	38.40
Hounslow	102.08	Dewsbury	37.35
Islington	101.86	Chichester	35.15
Airedale	101.11	Winchester	34.81
Harrow	100.68	SW Hampshire	29.01
Riverside	100.30		


DENZIL McNEELANCE

Toy tyrants: left to right, Goebbels, Hitler, Hess and Goering sold for prices ranging from £132 to £1,320

Miniature Nazis go quietly

BY SARAH JANE CHECKLAND
ART MARKET CORRESPONDENT

A RARE sale of Nazi memorabilia attracted anonymous private collectors to Phillips in London yesterday, although a toy figure of Hitler in stormtrooper's uniform fetched only £132.

In the 1930s, the mass produced toys were popular with German schoolboys. Now, the stigma surrounding all things Nazi means they rarely appear on the market. Sotheby's and Christie's refuse to sell them; Phillips has no such misgivings and reaped the benefits of this largely underground market.

A model of Rudolf Hess fetched £1,320 (including premium); a 70mm (3in) figure of Goebbels in party uniform sold for £286; and Goering "without baton standing, movable saluting arm" fetched £440.

Hitler failed to match these prices because of his comparatively frequent appearances on the market.

The four private collectors who bought the models asked not to be named.

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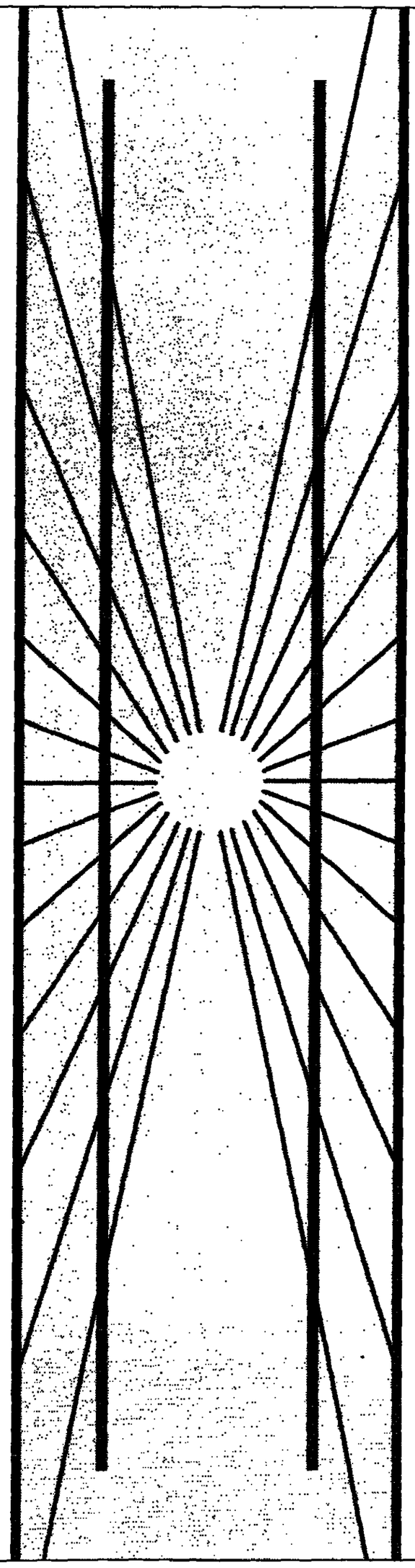
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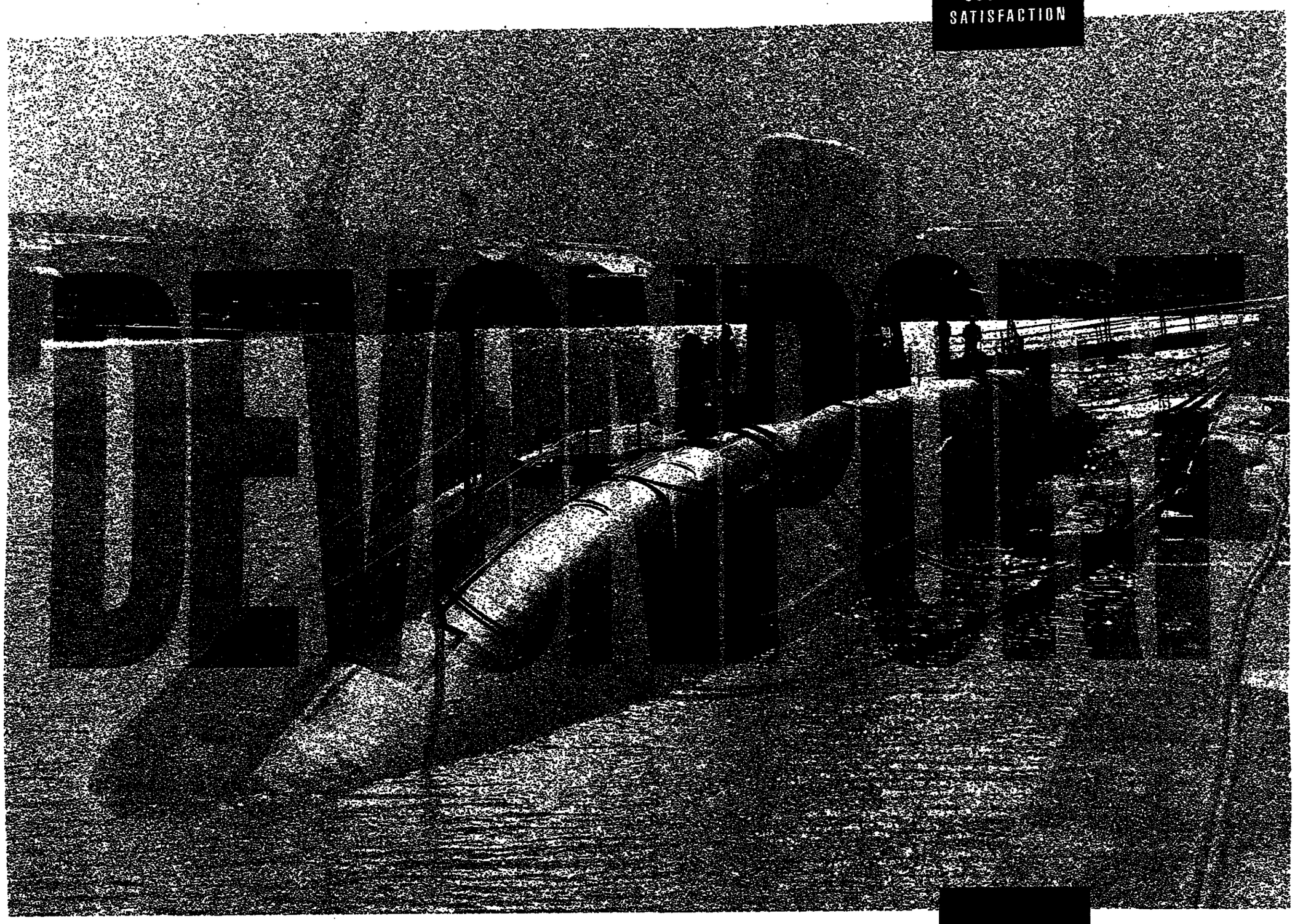
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Private schools struggle as boarding drops 6%

By JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

■ Independent schools remain optimistic despite registering the biggest decline in boarding since records began

INDEPENDENT schools yesterday announced the biggest slump in boarding for more than a decade as they struggled to ride out the recession.

Although the number of day pupils remained almost constant, boarding numbers declined by more than 6 per cent compared with 1992. An overall drop of almost 7,000 pupils at 1,343 schools was the biggest in the 11 years that national statistics have been collected.

David Woodhead, the national director of the Independent Schools Information Service, said that he had expected the 1.5 per cent decline to be much greater.

"Independent schools have once again surprised many both within and outside the sector by their remarkable resilience in the face of the worst economic conditions since the last war."

Parents were prepared to make sacrifices to ensure educational stability for their children. Many had given up expensive holidays and moved to cheaper homes to pay for private education for their sons and daughters in the teeth of the longest recession Britain has faced since the 1930s.

Fees rose by an average 8.3 per cent, the lowest increase in a decade although still well ahead of inflation. Michael Oakham, the chairman of the bursars' association, said that fee levels were largely dictated by teachers' pay settlements. Rises over several years had followed the pattern of state school costs.

The bursars forecast an average fee rise of 4-5 per cent in the autumn. Although teachers have been awarded a pay increase of only 1.5 per cent, the independent school pay bill is expected to rise by up to 7 per cent.

More than 25 per cent of the 465,627 pupils are receiving help with their fees, mainly through bursaries or scholarships provided by the schools themselves. This year's census also shows a 3.4 per cent increase in the number supported by the government's assisted places scheme.

Mr Oakley said schools were shifting money originally intended for capital projects to boost the sums available to support pupils whose parents ran into financial difficulties. Most liked the better social balance achieved by offering support for more pupils.

The main blackspot for the schools continues to be in the take-up of boarding places, which has been declining steadily for 20 years. Once again, prep schools have been most seriously hit. In two years, the number of eight-year-olds taking full board has dropped by almost a third. Mr Woodhead said the recession had accelerated a long-term decline in boarding, which had sociological roots. Prep schools were bearing the brunt as parents postponed the point at which their children started boarding.

Joan Jefferson, the headmistress of St Swithun's School, Winchester, and president of the Girls' Schools Association, said: "I do not think that boarding is in terminal decline. It is in a process of change, with more parents choosing schools close to home and opting for weekly boarding. As the country comes out of recession, boarding numbers overall may well increase."

However, the Isis report says many schools are already considering rationalising their provision, with some concentrating entirely on day pupils. There had been few closures of boarding schools, but a number had merged with neighbours.

The education department has registered 79 independent school closures in the last year, but 74 new schools have opened.

A decade in which independent schools took a growing share of all pupils came to an end in 1990 and is still declining slightly. The picture varies substantially at different stages, however. Almost one in five sixth-formers throughout England is in an independent school, for example, as is one in six of secondary school pupils in London and the South East.

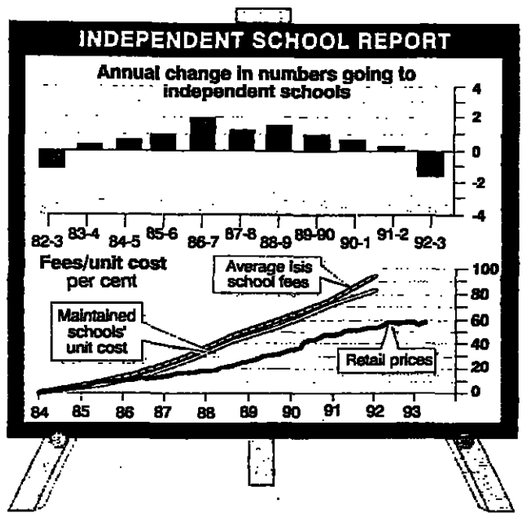
The biggest points of growth in the last year have been in foreign students and those of pre-school age, although girls' schools have also recorded an overall increase in day pupils. Almost 6,000 foreign pupils represented the largest increase for several years, more than offsetting a drop in the children of Britons living abroad and bringing in £130 million in foreign currency.

The schools hope that healthy rises in the number of children attending pre-prep departments will carry through into later age groups, as parents seek stability for their sons and daughters. At present, however, there is unprecedented movement in and out of independent education.

Mr Woodhead said: "Parents are acting pragmatically. Whenever there is a natural break, they are looking at what is on offer locally."

Head teachers at the publication of the census yesterday all reported increases in applications for the coming year. Mr Woodhead said: "All the signs are good for the long term, and we are already beginning to see some of our very own green shoots."

Leading article, page 17



THE COST OF EDUCATION

Ten top boys' boarding fees			Ten top girls' boarding fees		
1	Harrow	£3,975 (£3,725)	1	Roedean	£3,885 (£3,580)
2	Millfield	£3,960 (£3,500)	2	Benenden	£3,760 (£3,500)
3	Carmel	£3,960 (£3,650)	3	Wycombe Abbey	£3,695 (£3,444)
4	Stowe	£3,910 (£3,620)	4	Downe House	£3,630 (£3,285)
5	Winchester	£3,900 (£3,600)	5	Heathfield, Berks	£3,580 (£3,350)
6	Bryanston	£3,890 (£3,640)	6	Cheltenham Ladies	£3,575 (£3,340)
7	Eton	£3,870 (£3,600)	7	St George's, Berks	£3,550 (£3,300)
8	Charterhouse	£3,855 (£3,600)	8	St Mary's, Berks	£3,507 (£3,276)
9	Rugby	£3,840 (£3,575)	9	Sherborne Girls	£3,320 (£3,075)
10	Uppingham	£3,800 (£3,570)	10	Queenswood	£3,285 (£3,200)

Fees are per term. Last year's fees in brackets.

Boycott of testing backed by heads

By JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

INDEPENDENT school heads yesterday gave their support to teachers' demands for a suspension of this year's classroom tests and questioned the need for national assessment at 14.

Robin Wilson, the head of Trinity School, Croydon, and chairman of the Headmasters' Conference, which includes many of the leading public schools, said: "Our sympathies are very much with the teaching profession. We agree the tests should be suspended."

Few of the leading independent schools will be taking the most controversial tests, those for 14 year-olds in English and technology. Most will continue to administer their own end-of-year examinations.

Even the more established tests for seven-year-olds will be taken by only half of the eligible independent schools. Bryan Maybee, the headmaster of Mount School, Bromsgrove, said that the early primary school curriculum was too prescriptive, and teachers should be allowed to concentrate on basic literacy and numeracy.

Mr Wilson repeated a view he expressed in a letter to *The Times* last week that a single method of testing could not satisfy the government's requirements to be both diagnostic and capable of ranking schools. He said that independent schools shared the growing perception that the quality of state education was improving, and added: "At 14, I cannot see for well-run schools what tests are there for."

Eric Forth, the schools minister, stepped up the government's campaign to save the tests in a statement drawing attention to new evidence from the Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit of low standards among school-leavers.

JOHN MANNING



Last stand: one woman and her dog enjoy the splendour of Oxleas Wood

Brussels challenges road route

By MICHAEL HORNSBY AND TOM WALKER

BRITAIN was yesterday given two months to justify building a four-lane highway through the last remaining fragment of ancient woodland around London or face prosecution before the European Court of Justice.

The ultimatum from the European Commission came after months of lobbying by conservationists and residents who are trying to halt the building of the road. It is the strongest legal challenge so far issued by Brussels to a planning decision of this kind.

The proposed road, part of a scheme known as the East London River Crossing, would span the Thames via a new bridge at Woolwich and then pass through the eastern corner of Oxleas Wood, an 8,000-year-old patch of forest on the slopes of Shooter's Hill at Eltham in southeast London. The wood is a designated site of special scientific interest.

Brussels contends that the government has failed to carry out a proper assessment of the environmental impact of the scheme as required under a European Community directive in force since July 1988.



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Tourists reject hotels for freedom of self-catering

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH holidaymakers are turning increasingly to self-catering. Only half the four million summer holidays booked so far this year are in hotels, with 44 per cent in self-catering accommodation and 6 per cent taking airline seats only.

Three years ago, 62 per cent of bookings were for hotels and cruise ships that included meals. By the summer peak, self-catering is expected to have overtaken inclusive hotel holidays.

The trend is causing alarm in the trade. Ian Smith, managing director of Lunn Poly, which produced the figures yesterday at the Association of British Travel Agents convention in Palma, Majorca, said: "People are becoming far more sophisticated and prefer to cook for themselves or eat out in restaurants. They feel they are getting better value for money and do not want meals at set times in a hotel dining-room any more."

Many small hotels in the Mediterranean have closed and reopened as self-catering apartments. A law has been passed in Majorca, after pressure from hoteliers, limiting the number of people who can stay in one apartment room. From next year, children over 12 will not be able to share a room with their parents and each apartment block will be licensed to accommodate a set number of people per room.

British tour operators believe the Majorcan authorities may discover that the rule is impossible to administer and that, if it were successful, tourists would switch to other destinations. Majorca is the most popular destination for British tourists and has taken up 12 per cent of holidays already booked. The island is followed by Florida with 8 per cent and Greece and Turkey with 6 per cent each.

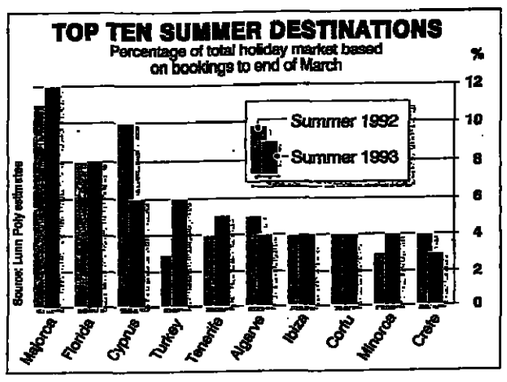
Holiday bookings are soaring and the big travel agency chains are competing to acquire prime sites for their premises. Agencies are taking over from building societies as the most common sight in Britain's high streets.

Lunn Poly, the biggest travel retailer with 623 shops, plans to open two more each week over the next year, creating 500 jobs, and to maintain its discount policy to keep its market share. Rivals such as Pickfords and Thomas Cook are fighting to keep pace, with hundreds of new shops in the final phases of fitting out or negotiation. Many will be equipped with video equipment to let customers see film of destinations and hotels before they book.

The rivalry between the giants is keeping prices down, enabling the 11 million people who will take package tours this year to obtain discounts throughout the summer peak. But many smaller agents told the convention of their difficulties in keeping up with the big chains. Profits are little more than 1 per cent of turnover. The average price of a two-week package holiday sold by Lunn Poly is £414, 1 per cent down on last year's £418 and £1 below the 1991 average.

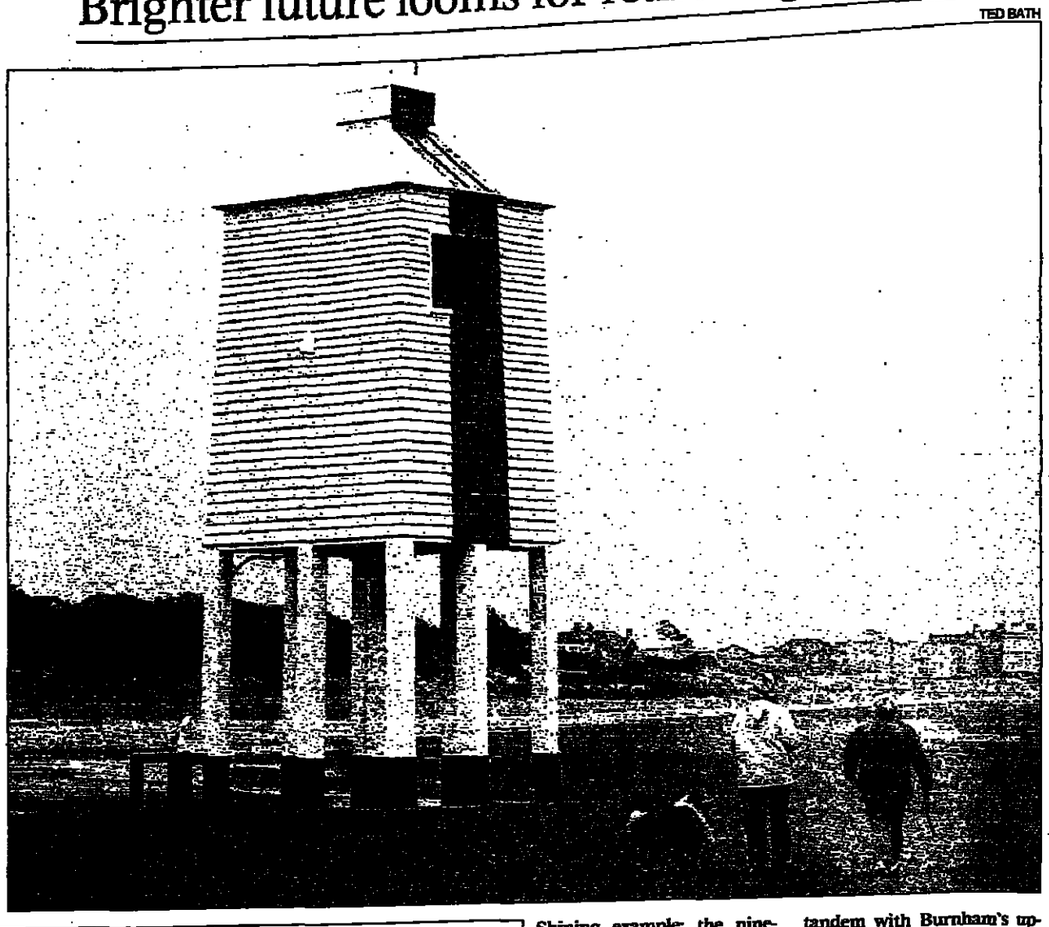
TOP TEN SUMMER DESTINATIONS

Percentage of total holiday market based on bookings to end of March



Brighter future looms for retired lighthouse

TED BATH



Shining example: the nine-legged lower lighthouse at Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, is to be brought back into service after standing redundant for 25 years.

The 160-year-old wooden lighthouse, which guided ships into Bridgwater until it was closed down in 1967, is to be renovated and working by the end of the year.

Built in 1832, it worked in tandem with Burnham's upper lighthouse, which it is now replacing as it is no longer needed for modern navigation, and will be used by local marine traffic.

The only one of its kind in Britain, the grade 1 listed building will be fully automated as part of a cost-cutting programme to automate fully the remaining 38 manned lighthouses by 1997.

Hoover books way out of flight fiasco

BY IAN MURRAY

HOOVER yesterday announced that it had negotiated a "comprehensive" range of flights on 1,100 services to Europe and America for the tens of thousands of customers who have claimed free flights in the company's over-subscribed promotion offer.

But the company, which is spending £20 million to try to meet its obligations under the terms of the promotion, is not prepared to say how many customers are claiming flights, which airlines they are using or what are the details of the schedule.

Nigel Griffiths, Labour's consumer affairs spokesman, said last night that he was writing to Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, demanding that government inspectors be allowed to monitor the rescue package. "Only last week, Hoover were trying to charge £25 to all those flying to Orlando," he said. "In my view, this puts into question their professional competence to come to grips with the travel disaster of the decade."

Richard Rankin, the American brought in as vice-president of European marketing services after the promotion backfired, promised yesterday that the new schedule "enables us to offer flights to all customers entitled to travel under the terms of the promotion". He said the £20 million rescue fund set up by Maytag Corporation, Hoover's American parent company, would be used to charter aircraft and block book seats.

But many of those who want to travel during the peak holiday months of July and August are likely to be disappointed. To find what air industry sources estimate are about 45,000 trans-Atlantic seats and 25,000 European bookings, Hoover has bought up existing spare capacity. This is largely available in the early summer and autumn, but not during the two peak months.

Buying such a large number of seats has proved extremely difficult. Virgin Atlantic has refused to sell any, although it will be carrying some Hoover passengers through bookings made by agencies specialising in consolidating block bookings. British Airways is understood to be carrying 17,000 of the 20,000 passengers who have opted to go to New York. Unijet Leisure International is expected to be flying between 20,000 and 25,000 to Orlando and 11,000 of the 25,000 who have chosen one of the five European destinations.

The tickets are likely to cost Hoover between £200 and £250 for the Atlantic flights and between £120 and £200 for European destinations.

Customers wanting to check their tickets should contact Hoover's helpline on 0685 373344 in working hours.

CHAMPIONSHIP CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Nigel Short's victory in his recent match against the Dutchman Jan Timman, gave him the right to challenge Garry Kasparov for the world title.

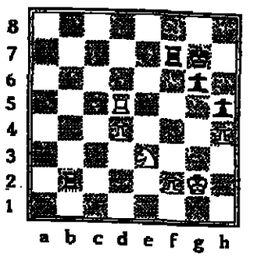
Today's game is from a crucial stage of the match. The score before this game was 4 points each, but this victory enabled Nigel to forge ahead, and ultimately triumph.

White: Jan Timman
Black: Nigel Short
Candidates Final, El Escorial
Game 9, February 1993

Ruy Lopez

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	a6
4	Bxc6	dxc6
5	0-0	Ne7
6	Nxe5	Qd4
7	Qh5	g6
8	Qg5	Bg7
9	Nd3	f5

Diagram of final position

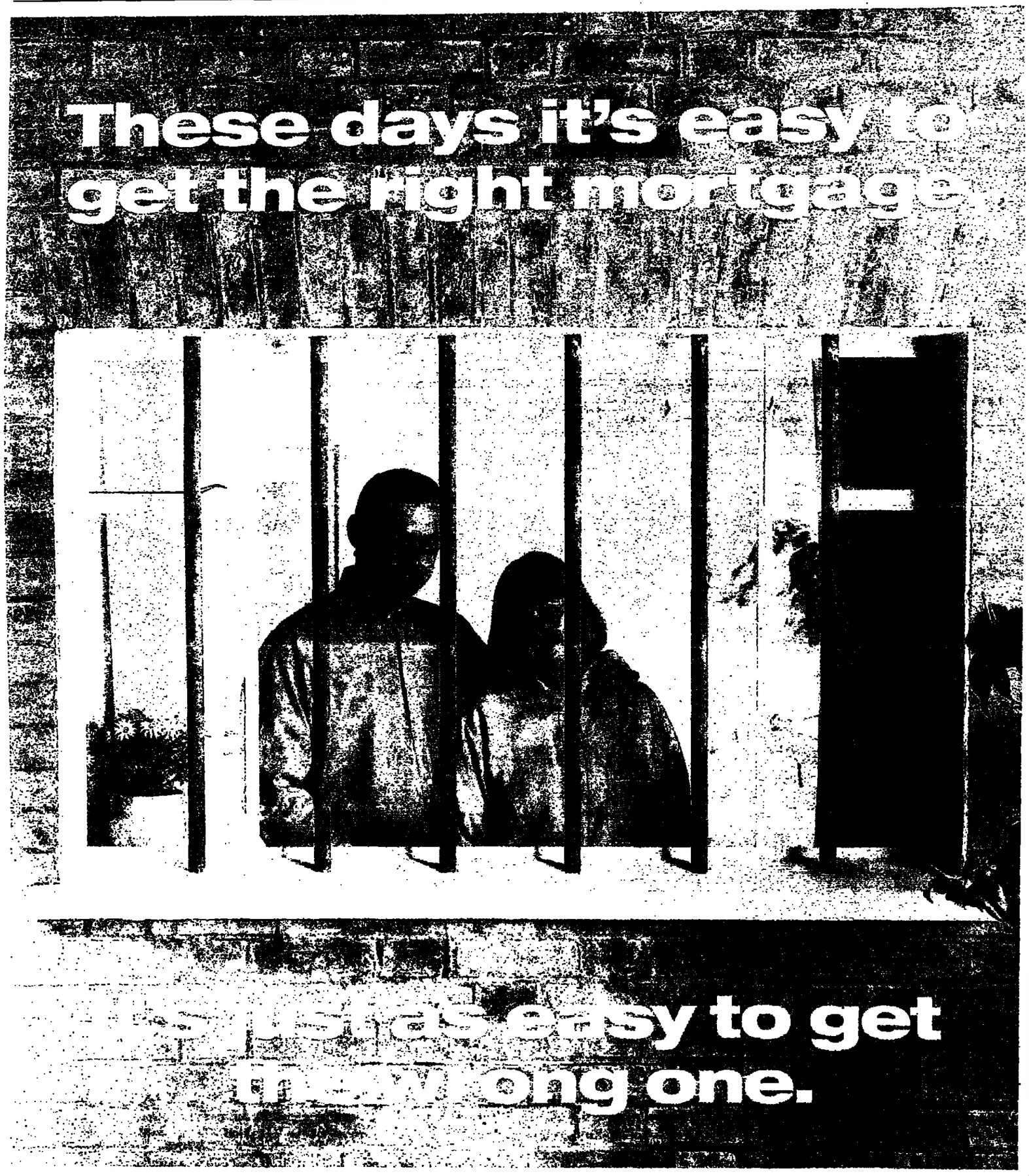


THE TIMES WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

10	e5	c5
11	b3	h6
12	Qg3	f4
13	Qf3	Bf5
14	Qxb7	Be4
15	Qxc7	Bxd3
16	cxd3	Bxe5
17	Qb7	Rb8
18	Qxa6	f3
19	Nc3	fxg2
20	Re1	0-0
21	Qe6+	Rf7
22	Nd1	Qxa1
23	Qxe5	Qxe5
24	Rxe5	Nc6
25	Rxc5	Nb4
26	Ba3	Nxd3
27	Rc6	Ra8
28	Rd6	Rxa3
29	Rxd3	Rxa2
30	Ne3	Kg7
31	Kxg2	Ra5
32	Rd4	Rb5
33	b4	Rbb7
34	Rc4	Rfc7
35	Rg4	Rd7
36	h4	h5
37	Rg5	Rxb4
38	d4	Rf7
39	Rd5	Rb2

White resigns

Winning Move, Page 40



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Legal aid dispute

Lawyers fear flood of DIY divorces will swamp courts

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

LAWYERS are predicting that government curbs on legal aid will bring a flood of DIY divorces, leading to long delays for obtaining a decree and a sharp rise in court disputes over children and maintenance.

Leading practitioners from the Solicitors' Family Law Association say that the recent withdrawal by the Lord Chancellor of "green form" legal-aid advice for all except those on income support will have disastrous knock-on effects for people seeking divorce.

Although green-form advice is not available for obtaining the divorce petition itself, solicitors have used the scheme for both preparing the petition and advising on settlements over children and maintenance. James Pirrie, of the London firm Russell Jones & Walker, said: "We have found the divorce registry increasingly pedantic over the fine detail of much of the paperwork. Solicitors are finding it difficult enough to process the necessary papers to obtain a divorce — if we can't get it right, I think many members of the public will find it completely impossible."

The withdrawal of green-form advice, which helped well over 200,000 people with their divorces in 1991-2, coincides with what some solicitors see as an increasingly strict attitude at the divorce registry that forms are 100 per cent accurate. "Orders are sent back on semantics — you might get a financial order *returned because the grammar* isn't right," Mr Pirrie said. "All this to-ing and fro-ing slows the process down and costs increasing sums of money: when people who used to qualify for green form are handling divorce themselves, the whole system will be brought to a standstill."

Another likely outcome, he says, is that wives who depend on a good maintenance settlement will lose out. "They will get the maintenance set by the Child Support Agency, which hides the fact that they are not getting any maintenance for themselves until the time comes when the children reach 16 and they are on their own."

Sara Robinson, spokesman for the association, warned of the likely delays in obtaining a *decree once people started* doing their own divorces, with court staff having to spend more time on advice. "The result will be a lot more court time and expense for the taxpayer. People will decide they can't afford legal fees and will be pressed into doing their own divorces. They will find, particularly in London, that the divorce registry is not particularly user-friendly and there are not the range of explanatory leaflets that people will need."

Another family lawyer, Naomi Angell, of Bindman & Partners, agreed there would be a rise in court actions, with a resulting increase in legal aid costs. "We all hope to avoid litigation by negotiating as much as possible beforehand. The whole climate has been towards mediation and conciliation rather than to increase conflict. But if solicitors are no longer able to do this for people, it will increase stress for families and there will be more disputes."

Desmond O'Donnell, also with Bindmans, said the process for obtaining an undefended divorce was time-consuming. "People do need advice on them: there are several forms involved, the petition and statement of arrangements [for the children], the application for exemption of fees ... these go to the court and you get back the acknowlegement-of-service form. Then the petitioner must complete an affidavit in support of the petition and an application for directions for trial."

To pay privately for legal advice on a divorce would cost about £100 an hour, a total of between £250 and £300, he said. If people managed to successfully divorce on their own, the cost would be £59.50.

Prison chief urges transfer of women

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

TOP-SECURITY women prisoners, including convicted IRA terrorists, should be moved from a special unit at Durham jail and allowed to serve sentences closer to their homes, according to a report published today.

The report by Judge Tumim, chief inspector of prisons, is also critical of the government for allowing a blind woman to be held in the wing, many miles from her family in Yorkshire.

Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, rejected a call by Judge Tumim for the women's wing at the jail to be cosed and greater use made of Holloway women's prison in north London. He said: 'Holloway does not have Category A accommodation and the required changes would disrupt the regime of the prison as well as require expenditure that would not offer value for money."

The judge's report suggests that some women were sent to Durham's H wing to make up the numbers and provide company for three Category A prisoners, including Martina Anderson and Ella O'Dwyer, IRA terrorists serving life sentences for their part in the plot to bomb 12 British seaside resorts in 1985.

The 16 women held in H wing, the only unit in the country with cells for Category A female prisoners, complained that they suffered verbal abuse from male inmates in the early hours of the morning. All inmates' movements were subject to restrictions for top-security prisoners, although only three were in that category.

The report says: "It was difficult to see why some of the women were felt to require the level of physical security provided." Judge Tumim could find no justification for a blind woman being sent to Durham when her elderly parents, who lived near York, found it impossible to reach the jail but could have visited her at Askham Grange, North Yorkshire.

The report says that although the overall provision for women prisoners in H wing is good, none of them came from the Durham area and all felt they could be held in a jail nearer their homes. Several of the women came from London and the Home Counties, which made family visits difficult and expensive.

Anderson and O'Dwyer have applied for a long-term temporary transfer to Northern Ireland. Their applications, with those of 12 other Northern Irish prisoners, are being considered by the government.

Anderson married Paul Kavanagh, serving 35 years of his part in the IRA's 1981 bombing campaign, in 1988.

TIM OCKENDEN



By royal command: the Duke of York, admitting his sea legs were a little wobbly after a year of landlubbing, took over his first warship yesterday. He was greeted by the 40 fellow officers and crew of HMS *Cottesmore*, a 625-ton minehunter, at Portsmouth. The 33-year-old lieutenant commander acknowledged that such a command was highly sought after in a shrinking navy. "The greatest ambition of any officer is to command his own ship." *Cottesmore*, which has a hull of glass-reinforced plastic to avoid detonating a mine, will spend the next six weeks on sea training. The duke follows the lead of the Prince of Wales, who commanded the minesweeper HMS *Bronington*.

Debt-laden ENO puts musicals on agenda

BY ALISON ROBERTS
ARTS REPORTER

THE new leadership team at English National Opera yesterday unveiled its strategy to increase audience numbers as the company faces its worst financial crisis.

Dennis Marks, who takes over from Peter Jonas as the general director in July, said that the recession was to blame for a 6 per cent fall in attendance and a consequent deficit of £1 million on last year. The company's accumulated deficit now stands at £2.3 million.

Sian Edwards, the new music director, said that the company was considering staging musicals and musical comedies as well as traditional opera. This would broaden the audience and return the Coliseum, the ENO's permanent home in central London, to its diverse theatrical past.

Mr Marks, former head of music programmes at the BBC, launched a populist *1993-4* season.

Wagner returns to ENO's repertory after eight years with the first new production of *Lohengrin* since 1971. Jonathan Miller also makes a comeback after retiring from opera several times, producing *Der Rosenkavalier* by Richard Strauss.

The new regime at ENO hope that the seven new productions next season — including new versions of *La Bohème* by Puccini, which launches a Puccini cycle, and Mozart's *Così fan tutte* — will herald a period of renewal.

ENO continues to be strongly associated with the composer Leo Janáček and launches a series of his work with *Jenůfa*, directed by the up-and-coming young director Lucy Bailey.

Ms Edwards will also conduct the première of *Blond Eckbert* by Judith Weir — a new composer who took the operatic world by storm with her last opera, *A Night at the Chinese Opera*.

Arts, page 29

NEWS IN BRIEF

Concrete block killer given life

A man was jailed for life at the Old Bailey for murdering a woman by dropping a concrete block on her head in a derelict garage. Gordon Sneddon, 25, of Battersea, south London, lived with his secret for ten weeks then, posing as a witness, led police to the body of Donna Tomlinson, 37, of Camberwell, south London.

John Bevan, for the prosecution, said Miss Tomlinson met Sneddon in a park last July and took him to her home.

Sneddon told police they went to the garage for sex after a long drinking session. Afterwards "something came into my head" and he hit her.

Heath honour

Sir Edward Heath, prime minister from 1970-4, has been awarded one of Germany's top honours, the Great Cross of Merit with Star and Sash, for taking Britain into the EC in 1972 and promoting Anglo-German ties.

Ship saved

Gary Morse, 26, of North Shields, Tyne and Wear, helped to save his father's trawler from sinking by plugging a leak in the hull with his fist while lying in 2ft of water in the engine room until help arrived.

Reward posted

The parents of Joanna Parrish, a 20-year-old student found strangled in the river Yonne at Auxerre in France three years ago, have posted a £5,000 reward to find her killer.

Drying out

A £45 million flood barrier across the river Yare at Great Yarmouth has been approved by flood prevention authorities in Norfolk and Suffolk.

Chief chosen

Paul Whitehouse, 48, deputy chief constable of West Yorkshire, has been appointed chief constable of Sussex.

Role of guide dogs confuses the public

BY RICHARD DUCE

MISCONCEPTIONS about the role of guide dogs for the blind are disclosed in a national survey published today. Some people believe the dogs can tell the time and others think motorists should flash their lights to signal that they should cross the road.

The survey was commissioned by the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association to mark today's second International Guide Dog Day. A spokeswoman for the association said yesterday: "This survey has proved the need for people to be re-educated."

The following statistics emerged from the survey, based on interviews carried out last month with 537 people.

☐ 92 per cent believe the guide dog decides when its owner crosses the road. In fact it is the owner who decides.

☐ 39 per cent think that the owner of a guide dog will not need assistance. Few people realise that if the dog's harness is lowered the owner would appreciate help.

☐ 35 per cent believe they can stroke or talk to a guide dog. In fact a working dog should never be distracted.

☐ 33 per cent think it acceptable to feed titbits to a guide dog. The dog has a balanced diet and overfeeding could affect the way it behaves and works.

☐ Only 41 per cent know that they should continue driving if they see a guide-dog owner waiting to cross the road. More than 50 per cent think they should sound the horn or even stop the car and wave them across. Two per cent would even flash their headlights.

☐ 70 per cent know that if a dog owner needs assistance an arm should be offered for them to take.

The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association first began training dogs in 1931 and today there are 4,100 owners. The association also organises holidays for clients, teaches braille to blind people and carries out veterinary research into dog health.

Illegal poisoning hampers rare kite's recovery in Britain

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

RED kites, once common in the skies of Britain but now among the country's rarest birds, are making a slow recovery, despite continued illegal poisoning.

The latest victim died after eating a rabbit laced with pesticide at Sandy, Bedfordshire, where the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), has its HQ, the society reported yesterday. The bird was one of 20 released last year by the RSPB and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee as part of a programme to reintroduce the fork-tailed predators to England and Scotland, where they were persecuted to extinction before the end of the last century.

At the lowest point in their fortunes, the birds were reduced to a handful of breeding pairs in the upper Towy valley in Dyfed. The latest count puts the British population at 84 breeding pairs, 79 of them in Wales, four in southern England and one in northern Scotland.

Roy Walker, the head of the conservation committee, said: "At least seven of the birds we have released have died as a result of illegal poisoning, which is by far the most important cause of mortality, accounting for nearly 70 per cent of recorded deaths. It would be a tragedy if such killing jeopardised the success of this international venture."

Since the reintroduction began four years ago, 53 red kites have been released in England and 69 in Scotland. The birds were imported from Spain and Sweden as well as Wales. Last summer, red kites bred in England for the first time in more than a hundred years, producing nine fledgelings. The nest sites are being kept secret for fear of raids by egg collectors.

Kites like wooded country and prey on rabbits, voles and field mice. They are also scavengers of carrion, which puts them at risk from poisoned meat set illegally by gamekeepers and farmers to kill foxes and crows. The entire world population is not thought to exceed 13,000 pairs, the biggest numbers being in France, Germany, Spain and Sweden.

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Minister rejects MPs' fears over rail sell-off

BY TIM JONES AND JONATHAN PRYNN

THE government yesterday refused to bow to pressure to slow down its plans to privatise the railways, in spite of cross-party warnings that the programme could go badly wrong.

The all-party Commons transport committee said that, because the plans were novel and untested, "the risk that something could go badly wrong is therefore higher than would otherwise be the case". The committee, which had previously claimed the proposals could jeopardise the integrity of the passenger network, says that privatisation could lead to line closures, reduced services and legal battles.

To counter the dangers of what it describes as "an experiment without parallel", the committee's report says the government must enforce strict service standards and controls to protect passengers against the misuse of monopoly power and fare increases. It also demands evaluation of the performances of the first franchises before full implementation of the proposals.

Roger Freeman, the transport minister, rejected the committee's criticism that the government should take longer to test the practicability of franchising services. However, he emphasised that the government would be "cautious" in introducing privatisation, although he said that 50 companies and 30 management /staff buy-out teams had shown interest.

"We are responding to market interests. We are not forcing anything down anyone's throats. We can't rush this. You can't push a piece of string, there has to be a response."

According to the report, the complexity of the proposed arrangements and the many uncertainties faced by private railway operators could mean the cost to the taxpayers of providing the same level of service may rise.

It also calls for John MacGregor, the transport secretary, to prove that he has no "hidden agenda" for closing lines or reducing services by amending the decision to cut the railway subsidy by half from £1 billion over the next two years to a "more realistic level". Mr Freeman insisted that "there is no reason why any service should close as a result of franchising", although he accepted that closures could result from lack of demand.

The report says: "Investment will be the key determinant of the success or failure of the government's proposals. The sharp drop in planned investment for 1993-4, coupled with the uncertainty generated by the government's proposals, have led to a crisis of orders and confidence in the railway supply industry."

In spite of its detailed reservations, the committee is less savage about the privatisation plans than it was in its interim report, which led to accusations that Robert Adley, the chairman, was unrepresentative of Tory backbench opinion.

Since then, Mr MacGregor has announced the seven lines, including three InterCity routes, which could be in private hands by next April, although the first franchised routes are not expected to be running until late 1994.

Although the committee's 11 members say the government is right to search for ways of improving the service, they warn that any franchisees will have to be given more powers to control the management and infrastructure if they are to maintain their interest.

The report says that potential franchisees for passenger services could be deterred unless it is made clear that open access to any other operator on the lines for which they have bid would be severely restricted. However, it says that open access for freight should be introduced as soon as possible.

And it says that further assurances are needed from the government on such matters as the universal availability of discounted fare schemes, cross-validity of tickets and the publication of a national timetable.



Freeman: responding to market interests



New views of Europe: Michael Howard helping to gloss over the controversy caused by Douglas Hurd

Major acts to calm row over referendum

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND JILL SHERMAN

JOHN Major and Douglas Hurd moved yesterday to damp down the row over the foreign secretary's weekend remarks about the impact of a "no" vote in next month's Danish referendum.

In the Commons Mr Major said there had been nothing new in what Mr Hurd had said. If the Danes voted "no" for a second time all 12 EC members "would need to hold urgent consultations about what to do next". On Sunday Mr Hurd's suggestion that a "no" vote could lead to a "crisis involving Denmark's position in the Community" led to claims that Britain was reneging on its pledge to stand by the Danes.

When the issue was raised in the Commons by William Cash, a Tory Euro-sceptic, Mr Major said the government did not expect the Danes to say no. If they did, the treaty could not enter into force and the European Community "all 12 of them" would need to hold consultations. He said: "Each of these points is self-evident. That is what Mr Hurd said." Mr Hurd, questioned in Stockholm, took a similar line.

On the by-election campaign trail at Newbury yesterday Michael Howard, the environment secretary, said: "There is no question of bypassing the Danes, nor is there any question of going ahead with the Maastricht treaty without the Danes. What the foreign secretary said was that we could not rule out pushing ahead with another sort of arrangement."

Mr Howard, one of the more Euro-sceptical members of the cabinet, pointed out that there were already arrangements in the EC which did not involve all member states, such as the exchange-rate mechanism.

Asked whether he thought "Black Wednesday", when Britain withdrew from the ERM, was really a black day, Mr Howard quipped: "I have never tried to paint it. I am not much of an artist myself."

Danes confident, page 13
Leading article, page 17

Smith goes shopping for votes

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Smith tentatively took to the hustings yesterday for his first by-election campaign as Labour leader.

Mr Smith initially looked slightly bewildered as he was steered round cameramen and pushed in front of old ladies and young children in Newbury, on behalf of his candidate, Steve Billcliffe.

His minder Peter Mandelson, MP for Hartlepool, had, it seemed, ensured that the Kennet shopping centre, Newbury's pride and joy, had been cleared of hostile voters. Although the shops looked conspicuously empty, elderly women and young mothers pushing prams seemed to appear out of the woodwork, pledging their support in a town which is supposed to be a Liberal Democrat stronghold.

Mr Mandelson adeptly guided Mr Smith from one pensioner to another, making sure that his boss had every opportunity to pat children's heads or stick Labour labels on their sweatshirts. At one point one of the advance party quietly asked if Mr Smith could go to the "Taste of France" bakery. "Are they hostile?" Mr Mandelson murmured under his breath. "No," came the answer before Mr Smith was turned in the direction of the croissants.

The Labour leader does not have the style, panache or the string of bad jokes of his predecessor, Neil Kinnock. Mr Kinnock excelled at walkabouts, putting down hecklers and chatting up old ladies as if he had known them all his life. Mr Smith adopted a much quieter stance uttering "Nice to see you" at every opportunity, followed by "great" or "very good" when he was sure of support. He also suffered from not being as recognisable. At least one shopper shook his hand without knowing who he was, while another said nostalgically: "There's the old Liberal leader."

Yet the kindly smile and the reassuring pats seemed to go down well. Olive Bunn, 92, summed it up: "To tell the truth I was a little bit disappointed to start with but he does things in a quiet style."

Mr Smith's first task was to place a sticker on the baseball cap of Ashley Deakin, aged 2½. "I think he deserves a sticker," the Labour leader said, though we were not quite sure why.

Mr Billcliff played a minor role in yesterday morning's proceedings. At one point he interrupted a conversation with Celia Barclay about the rise in prescription charges. "Can I say hello. I am Steve Billcliff," he said. "Yes, we have met before," Mrs Barclay said. "Of course we have," Mr Billcliff said, smiling too much to be convincing.

☐ 1992 general election:
J Chaplin (C) 37,135; D Rendel (Lib Dem) 24,778; R Hall (L) 3,962; J Wallis (Green) 539.
Con majority 12,357.

Bosnia policy puts Britain's special relationship to test

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The Western review of policy towards Bosnia is too often glibly depicted as a clash between impetuous American idealism and cautious European realism, like a Henry James novel. There are elements of both strands, but to talk of a transatlantic clash is misleading. Rather, there is an anguished debate on both sides of the Atlantic not just about whether to use force but about the inherent limits on outside intervention. Differences are those of perspective and degree of existing involvement.

To listen to President Clinton in the past few days is not to hear a leader raring to intervene, a modern-day Teddy Roosevelt. His comments in a news conference last Friday and in subsequent interviews reflect caution and doubts. Bosnia is, he said, "clearly the most difficult foreign policy problem we and our allies face". America has a special responsibility as "the world's only superpower. We do have to lead the world."

His views of the limits on possible actions match those heard in London. "If the United States takes action, we must have a clearly defined objective that can be met, we must be able to understand it, and its limitations must be clear." The US should not become involved as a partisan in a war.

There are stronger pressures for intervention from within the Clinton administration than from either the British or French governments. The use of force is favoured by Madeleine Albright, American ambassador at the UN, by key National Security Council staff and by several officials in the State Department. In Britain, the most Thatcherite members of the cabinet are among the strongest opponents of intervention, one of the few issues where they diverge from their mentor. In both countries, defence and intelligence advisers have stressed the risks of military action.

The real transatlantic difference is in the degree of impatience, the extent of the feeling that "something must be done." That is why Baroness Thatcher's comments two weeks ago struck such chords in America. In that respect, America has been leading the current policy review, forcing the Europeans to re-examine options which they had previously ruled out, going beyond the tightening of sanctions against Serbia which took effect yesterday.

Viewed from London, the process is the familiar one of trying to influence American policy as it is being formed, operating as a participant in the inter-agency debate in Washington. In his interview with *The Times* last week, Douglas Hurd offered a good definition of that much abused term the "special relationship": "what it actually means in practice is that we are involved in their thinking at an earlier stage than most people, and that is crucial. It does not mean they always take our advice." It means feeding in suggestions and reservations, or, as some officials would say, educating the Americans, and particularly a new administration.

The main British hope now is to ensure that Mr Clinton's decisions take account of all the factors involved, defining the strategic aim, specific targets, numbers of planes, the legal basis and, above all, the impact on the existing humanitarian efforts on the ground. Britain remains more opposed to any lifting of the arms embargo to aid the Bosnian Muslims than to limited air attacks. The latest comments by Mr Clinton suggest that any military moves will be restricted in their ambitions. They may go further than ministers in London would have liked a week or two ago, and there may be continuing reservations, but, in the end, there will be no open breach with Washington, and British planes will participate in any actions.

PETER RIDDELL

Whitehall 'needs code of ethics'

BY MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

A COMPREHENSIVE code of ethics is needed to help to preserve the traditional integrity of the civil service in the face of the managerial revolution sweeping Whitehall, it was claimed yesterday.

A code of ethics would provide clear guidelines for civil servants who were confronted, for example, by ministers attempting to mislead Parliament, Elizabeth Symons, the general secretary of the Association of First Division Civil Servants, said. Ms Symons was giving evidence to the House of Commons civil service select committee.

Graham Mather, president of the European Policy Forum, a free-market think tank, told the committee that Whitehall would become more efficient only when the senior policy-making elite were put on five-year contracts, paid the market rate for the job, and judged by the quality of their performance.

Government pressed to call early election

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major is being urged by senior ministerial colleagues to prepare now for a general election in as little as two years.

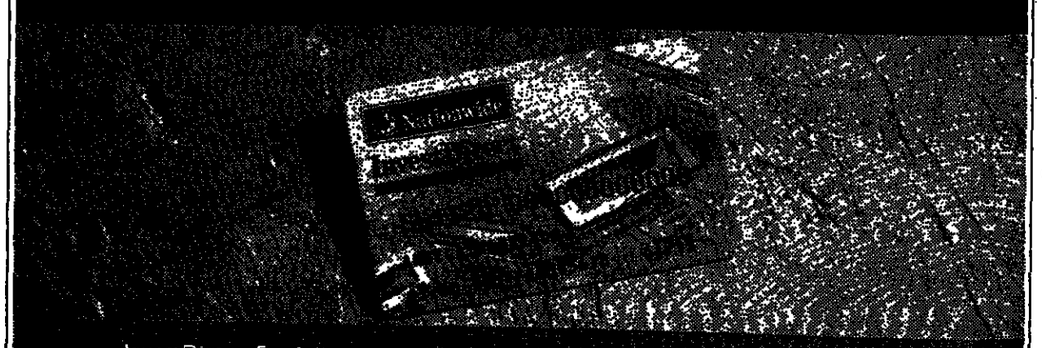
Two conflicting approaches have already emerged among Tory strategists. While some are urging the prime minister to capitalise on the economic upturn confirmed on Monday, others say that such a strategy would be open to obvious accusations of "cutting and running".

Advocates of a 1995 election are also saying that it should free the government of the inhibitions of an uncertain majority, currently down to 20 with the prospect of worse to come if the Newbury by-election is lost and subsequent contests follow the pattern of past mid-term setbacks.

Ministers urging Mr Major to give serious attention to the merits of 1996 or 1995 rest their case primarily on the hazards of soldiering on with a declining majority. Prominent Euro-sceptics predict a bumpy ride for the government on a wide variety of fronts once Maastricht is laid to rest.

Sir Norman Fowler, the Conservative party chairman, is understood to be opposed to an early election. His officials emphasised yesterday that 1995 forms no part of Smith Square's strategic planning for regaining power.

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Tory heartland loses its true blue image

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

FOR almost a century the retired colonel vote in Gloucestershire turned out in force to return successive Conservative councils to Gloucestershire Hall. But the past eight years has seen a transformation in the political landscape of the county.

While not yet the Lambeth of the west, there is a growing mood of militancy over government-imposed cuts that does not fit easily with the Cheltenham image of blimps and blue rinses.

The council has been hung since 1985, with first the Liberal Democrats and more recently the Tories providing the dominant political force. The council is divided between 22 Tories, 22 Liberal Democrats and 16 Labour councillors. Party political distinctions have receded in the county as the three main groups have concentrated their fire on Whitehall.

LOCAL ELECTIONS

Gloucestershire politicians of all hues believe they are the victims of a low-spending past that has allowed central government to impose a wholly inadequate spending limit on the council at a time when the social problems of the county have never been more acute.

A Labour/Conservative budget of just under £317 million exceeds the government's standard spending assessment for the county by more than £10 million, making Gloucestershire the only English county to exceed its capping limit. On Wednesday the council voted to appeal to the Department of the Environment for more cash.

Last year a similar appeal yielded an unexpected £2.5 million, only a quarter of what was asked for, but £2.5 million more than anticipated. Party leaders argue that the case for more funding is even stronger this year and should not be ignored by the government.

According to Frank Thompson, the Labour group leader, the effect on services generally of a capped budget would be "catastrophic". The Tory leader, Richard Izett, chooses his words more carefully but the message is the same. "The government and its advisers have failed to understand, because of their remoteness, the difficulties facing Gloucestershire because of its low expenditure levels."

Promises to review the standard spending assessment system for next year are dismissed by the Tories as "jam tomorrow", and Mr Izett's election message describes the system as "flawed" and "inequitable".

Having declined to join the delegation that pulled the £2.5 million rabbit out of the hat last year, the Tories cannot afford in election year to appear anything other than doughty defenders of the interests of Gloucestershire, even if that means unpopularity at Central Office. According to Mr Izett: "If it comes to a clash of loyalty between party and the county to whom one has made a commitment one has to stand by the county." Any other course would spell electoral disaster on May 6.

So small are the differences between the parties that for the past two years Labour and the Conservatives have alternated sharing the main council committees.

Diary, page 16

Yeltsin repays West by backing firm line on Bosnia



Churkin: shuttle mission to win over Belgrade

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW AND IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

■ The Russian president, brushing aside conservative sympathy for fellow Slavs, has told the Serbs that they must obey the UN

PRESIDENT Yeltsin yesterday repaid President Clinton for American support in the run-up to Sunday's Russian referendum, adding his own weight to Western pressure on the Bosnian Serbs.

Mr Yeltsin warned Bosnian Serbs that they would not be protected by Russia if they continued to thwart the international peace plan and said that Russia would back the West's line on the conflict. Mr Yeltsin described the Vance-Owen plan, rejected on Monday by the Bosnian Serbs, as the only realistic solution available, and quashed Serb hopes of support from Moscow against sanctions. "The Russian Federation will not protect those who resist the will of the world community," he declared.

In Washington yesterday, the vice-chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral David Jeremiah, said allied air strikes against Serb military positions in Bosnia would be difficult and dangerous. Admiral Jeremiah said it would be a long-term operation, with damage to civilian areas and aircraft shot down.

Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, set strict guidelines for the use of force against the Serbs. He told a Senate committee that allied action would require clearly stating the goal to the American people: likely success; an "exit strategy"; and American public support.

Yesterday Mr Yeltsin hinted that he accepted the need for external intervention in Bosnia, saying "the time has come for decisive measures", but did not make clear whether Russia would be prepared actively to back such an operation if sanctions failed. He had hitherto been reluctant to risk the wrath of domestic nationalists by openly siding with the West. Having won a vote of confidence in the referendum, he believes he can reduce the influence of the conservative parliament, which has opposed sanctions against the Serbs, and also seems anxious to place his stamp on Balkan policy which has appeared to be slipping into the control of cautious foreign ministry officials anxious not to break ties with Belgrade.

The Russian foreign and defence ministries yesterday distanced themselves from any move which would sever that historical bond or imply support for military action. A foreign ministry spokesman said the international community must avoid "unilateral, unreasoned and violent actions" in Yugoslavia, adding that military intervention could lead to the conflict spreading.

Mr Yeltsin's envoy on Bosnia, Vitali Churkin, the deputy foreign minister, has been engaged in shuttle diplomacy aimed at persuading Serbia to accept an amended peace plan. He has condemned the international community for pursuing "too hasty" steps against Yugoslavia and recently said that threatening only one party risked prolonging the bloodshed.

Admiral Jeremiah's warning amounted to the Pentagon putting its wary views on record as Mr Clinton was consulting about options for action in Bosnia, although other officials privately dispute his verdict. He described bad weather and rough terrain in Bosnia as making air raids against Serb artillery and supply routes a difficult prospect, especially if the Serbs hid their weapons in bunkers or civilian buildings.

A widespread but largely unspoken uneasiness in America is that military action could escalate, as it did in Vietnam, the war Mr Clinton avoided. Wesley Pruden, editor of the anti-Clinton *Washington Times*, even dragged the president's 13-year-old daughter into the argument: "Mr Clinton ought to say exactly what he has in mind [on Bosnia] because we may be there long enough for Private First Class Chelsea Clinton, US Marine Corps, to redeem the Clinton family honour."

Charge of Light Brigade 'is lesson for Nato'

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

As moves towards tougher action in Bosnia-Herzegovina gathered pace yesterday, Nato governments were warned that unless they clarified their aims, soldiers risked being stuck there "half way through the next century".

Field Marshal Sir Richard Vincent, chairman of Nato's military committee and until recently Britain's Chief of the Defence Staff, said that governments debating how to impose peace in the Balkans were ignoring the lessons taught by the charge of the Light Brigade, Napoleon's ignominious retreat from Moscow and the military thinker, Clausewitz.

He said that any intervention in the Balkans needed a clear political aim. "There has to be a matching, coherent, convergent civil affairs plan," he said. "The military out there are a means to an end. They are not an end in themselves. If we go out on the basis that we are an end in ourselves, we will be there half way through the next century."

He emphasised the enormous commitment of resources and time that would be required to move tens of thousands of troops to Bosnia. "You cannot defy the law of military logistics," he said. Armies with inadequate logistic support "engage in retreats from Moscow such as occurred in 1812".

He added that the United Nations' present Vance-Owen peace plan was of little use as a basis for military planning and that governments remained divided over how far it should be enforced against the will of local warlords. He cast doubt on the value of air strikes against Serb positions, although he said that Nato had done no detailed planning for air raids.

Sir Richard said that during the Cold War, Nato's 16 governments had led a comfortable and predictable existence, made "pretty formalised" decisions and were in danger of forgetting Clausewitz's first principle of war.

The first principle "is to decide what you want to do", he said. Governments have not so far answered his question: "Would you please tell us what you want to achieve?" The Light Brigade, he added, had gallantly charged the enemy in the Crimea, "but to no great strategic avail that I am aware of".

Yesterday's meeting of Nato's 16 national chiefs of staff did not formally discuss air strikes or possible military supervision of the UN peace plan because Nato has received no official request to act for the UN. Sir Richard's calmly delivered criticisms reflect deep frustration and anxiety inside Nato at the inadequacy of the political guidance received so far.

General John Shalikashvili, Nato's supreme commander in Europe, who attended yesterday's meeting, has publicly criticised plans for air strikes as liable to cause civilian casualties.

Defiant Serbs open front in Bihac as sanctions intensify

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

AS STRINGENT new sanctions came into force against Serbia yesterday, defiant Serbs crossed into a large enclave in northwest Bosnia known as the Bihac pocket. In response, General Lars Erik Wahlgren, commander of the United Nations forces in former Yugoslavia, told his soldiers to protect civilians threatened by the fighting.

"I have ordered my troops to prevent violations of human rights according to the Geneva Conventions," he said adding that this meant his personnel would protect "women and children from being taken hostage". They would also prevent civilian houses being put to the torch.

Asked if this meant that UN troops could open fire on attackers, he said: "They can fire warning shots first ... in Lebanon, we put soldiers on the roof of houses to stop them being blown up. These are standard operating procedures in a peacekeeping mission."

The fighting in Bihac was described by Cedric Thornberry, second in command of the UN operation in Yugoslavia, as "a mystery". About 1,000 Serb troops were spotted massing close to the border of the enclave overnight and between 100 and 150 soldiers subsequently entered it. They were supported by tanks and artillery.

What puzzles the UN is that the soldiers did not launch their assault from Bosnia but from UN-held Serb-controlled territory in Croatia. Gen Wahlgren said Serb military chiefs in the self-proclaimed Republic of Serbian Krajina claimed to have no knowledge of the fighting.

He said that he did not know if the Serb troops were from Croatia or were Bosnian Serbs who had crossed into UN-controlled territory. Mr Thornberry said: "All of them are very old, over 50, so it's all very unusual." Tanjug, the Belgrade news agency, said that Serb forces had repelled a Muslim attack but gave few details.

Gen Wahlgren's orders appeared to provoke some confusion within UN ranks because Mr Thornberry said that they had a mandate only to protect UN aid convoys. A substantial contingent of French "blue berets" is based in Bihac.

The Bihac pocket is overwhelmingly Muslim, and Serb forces have made only half-hearted attempts to take it. They have always been divided about whether they should conquer an area which lies in the middle of Serb territories in Croatia and Bosnia or leave it to its inhabitants.

If Serb troops had attacked from Bosnia, it could have been assumed that they were trying to take a small part of a railway line which is in Muslim hands. Mr Thornberry suggested that a "local initiative" could be under way. Bearing in mind the debate over air strikes, Gen Wahlgren said he thought that the incursion took place at an "extremely badly selected time if it is not a local intiative".

In Belgrade yesterday, Milorad Unkovic, the federal minister for foreign economic relations, attacked the new UN sanctions as "ethnic cleansing", adding that their effect would be "genocidal". More soberly, Radoje Kontic, the Yugoslav prime minister, observed that "poverty knocks on every door".

The new sanctions are designed to plug loopholes in the general trade embargo that came into effect last May. Above all, this means that goods, ostensibly destined for neighbouring countries, cannot be shipped or taken by lorry or rail through Serbia without UN permission.

United States customs officers, helping Romanian and Bulgarian officials patrolling the Danube, were yesterday advising about the new documentation that ships will need. They were also attempting to work out how to distinguish forgeries.

For the past two days, there have been reports from Washington, London, Sofia, Bucharest and Brussels as each country and the European Community institutes the new sanctions, especially the freezing of Yugoslav assets. However, the most important steps were taken in Cyprus, where the authorities announced the freezing of the assets of three Serbian banks and 50 offshore companies.

Since the embargo came into force, the island has been suspected of being the main financial clearing house for sanctions busting. The new regulations will go some way towards throttling the business if not stamping it out. But, since the text of the UN resolution has been known for weeks, it is unlikely that much money will have been left in Cyprus to seize. Nor is it clear where it has gone.

Ronaldo Mota Sardenberg, the Brazilian chairman of the UN Security Council's sanctions committee in New York, said Yugoslavia "will feel the bite immediately, especially in the financial sphere".

While it will now be very hard to move goods in and out of Serbia, by targeting the banks and offshore companies, the UN is trying to stamp out sanctions-busting deals by preventing Serbian and Serb-owned front companies transacting them in the first place.

America has given Romania three river-patrol boats to help stop goods reaching Serbia along the Danube. However, tracking financial transactions is a far more difficult job which will need an army of highly specialised financial experts to control.

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Muslim help

Karachi: The war in Bosnia was the main item on the agenda of a meeting of foreign ministers of Islamic countries here, Indonesia's foreign minister, Ali Alatas, said. Saudi Arabia pledged $20 million (£12.5 million) to help Muslims in Bosnia, and other countries were expected to make pledges of further financial assistance at a later stage, officials said. (AFP)





Air of authority: a Bosnian Serb soldier standing guard beneath a television transmitter on Mount Majevica, seven miles east of Tuzla

UK padre weeps for the dead of Ahinici

BY TOM RHODES IN VITEZ AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE padre to the British troops in central Bosnia wept yesterday as he helped soldiers to remove seven charred bodies from the remnants of what had once been their family home in Ahinici.

The bodies, thought to be a mother, father and five children, were discovered by the British last week after the village had been burnt by extremist Bosnian Croats.

Clearly moved by the appalling sight of the victims, Captain Tyrone Hillary, padre to the forces in Vitez, who was accompanied by a local imam, said: "I think it is my job to be with soldiers when they are doing jobs like this. I want to be at their side to help them cope with the horror. What is happening here is beyond my understanding: it is beyond anyone's understanding."

One sniper shot struck a wall behind those in attendance. Lieutenant Colonel Bob Stewart then ordered his men into the hedgerow and sent three armoured warriors crashing through wooden fences up a steep meadow towards the woods where the shot had originated. Two snipers were apparently spotted, but the UN commander had told his men to return fire only in extremis.

British medics donned rubber gloves and went into the house with plastic body bags to collect the charred remains. "I've never done anything like this before," said Corporal Richie Clarke. He said that five people, whose bodies were discovered on the lower floor, appeared to have huddled together in their last moments. The troops wrapped up the corpses and drove them to an unknown location for burial.

The regional Croat commander, Dario Kordic, has promised to set up a tribunal to investigate the atrocities of Ahinici. Earlier this week, he claimed he had arrested five men in connection with the massacre. They are believed to be former members of HOS, the radical faction of the Croat defence force.

Asked if he thought Croat extremists had been responsible, Col Stewart said it would be foolish to guess but added: "I don't think it was Muslims and I don't think it was Serbs."

In an action between the Bosnian Muslim town of Zenica and Tuzla, yesterday, two United Nations aid convoy drivers, one British and one Bosnian, were badly wounded in a mortar attack, UN officials said.

The men, who were unnamed, were taken to a Canadian military field hospital at Visoko in central Bosnia.

RAF prepares for bombing raids

Continued from page 1

Ministry of Defence sources said yesterday that British troops would continue with their escort duties in spite of the risk of revenge attacks.

Contingency plans to evacuate the troops were drawn up in January when it was feared that enforcement of the air exclusion zone could lead to wholesale attacks on UN ground troops. In the event, that did not happen, and now ministers have been advised that revenge action is likely to be limited even in the face of air strikes. If there were a full-scale assault, soldiers would move to a safer area but would not be pulled out altogether.

Although Serb action against the UN force has been less than feared, sporadic attacks have continued and yesterday British soldiers came under fire in both central and eastern Bosnia. A British convoy leader and his local driver were shot and seriously wounded on the road from Zenica to Tuzla, and in a separate incident, British troops came under sniper fire as they moved the charred bodies of a Muslim family from their burnt-out home in the village of Ahinici in eastern Bosnia, where Croats and Muslims are in conflict.

The Serbs meanwhile showed their defiance of the tougher UN sanctions that came into force yesterday by launching an attack in Muslim-held northeastern Bosnia. Up to 150 Serb troops backed by tanks and artillery advanced into the Bihac area, where 300,000 people are being supplied with UN aid.

Kremlin tells hardliners to make way for reform

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

SUPPORTERS and opponents of President Yeltsin embarked yesterday on what is likely to be a long tussle over the results of Sunday's referendum. Kremlin advisers said he intends to interpret the ballot as a mandate for sweeping constitutional changes.

As a confident Mr Yeltsin warned the conservative parliament that it faced its "last chance" to come into line with Western governments over the former Yugoslavia or stand discredited in the eyes of the democratic world, the electoral commission confirmed that he had won 58 per cent of the votes cast on confidence in him and 53 per cent support for his economic policies.

Mikhail Polteranin, his close aide, said that the president had been given a "free hand by the people to act decisively" and that he intended to press ahead with his plan to abolish the Congress of People's Deputies and recast the country's parliamentary structures.

Mr Polteranin said that, if parliament refused to co-operate in its own reform, Mr Yeltsin would seek "other levers", acting through decrees and turning to a national constitutional assembly to force through changes to the unwieldy twin structure of congress and Supreme Soviet. Only 43 per cent of the electorate voted for early parliamentary elections, however, showing that popular enthusiasm for yet more political upheaval is limited and Mr Yeltsin faces an uphill task in convincing regional leaders to back him in his campaign to ditch the congress and replace it with a two-chamber parliament.

The opposition is unimpressed by the popular vote in Mr Yeltsin's favour and many refuse to acknowledge that it has any significance. The hardline Russian Unity faction called on Mr Yeltsin to resign, arguing in yesterday's parliamentary session that the vote showed a lack of confidence in the leader because those who had stayed away were all against him. Mikhail Astafyev, another prominent opposition figure said that the country was under minority rule. But Sergei Shakrai, Mr Yeltsin's brightest deputy prime minister, told democrats not to worry about the hardliners' attacks, adding: "They are the kind of people who think that the only elections worth having are the ones in which the leader gets 99.9 per cent of the vote, like the old days."

As the catalogue of complaints continued, Viktor Chernomyrdin, the prime minister, could be forgiven for his curious choice of words at a gathering of oil industrialists. The head of government told his startled listeners that he wanted to "stay out of politics" in the coming months, apparently meaning that he would avoid the constitutional fray, but succumbing to the same confusion on the relations between politics, economic reform and constitutionality that besets most ordinary Russians.

The media struggled in traditional fashion to make the results fit its preconceived view of the referendum. *Pravda* managed not to inform its readers that Mr Yeltsin had won the vote and headlined its story: "Only one third of Russians are for moving towards world capitalism" before bemoaning the "wild spring outburst of democracy". The pro-reform *Izvestia* urged Mr Yeltsin to act quickly and decisively to end the constitutional deadlock before the gains of the ballot were weakened by his enemies' plotting.

Western leaders sent congratulations to Mr Yeltsin yesterday. President Clinton told him by telephone the result was a great step forward and hailed the "far-sightedness of the Russian people". Mr Clinton said that the vote would speed the proposed $4 billion (£2.5 billion) aid package through the US Congress.

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BANK OF SCOTLAND
London Securities Department
55 Old Broad Street

Due to the extensive damage caused to our premises at 55 Old Broad Street, London on 25th April 1993, all business is being transacted from our offices at 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3UB.

British Telecom are endeavouring to connect the existing suite of numbers to the new address and these should be available shortly.

Clients should dial these numbers initially, but if unsuccessful the following emergency numbers should be used:

Managers: 071-522 3580
UK Securities: 071-522 3581
Foreign Securities: 071-522 3582

The existing telex number, 883 270, remains valid.

BANK OF SCOTLAND

Budget chief admits Clinton adrift after first 100 days

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

■ The American leader is suffering the worst early poll ratings of any modern president. He is resilient, however, and many analysts expect him to bounce back

PRESIDENT Clinton will not celebrate his 100th day in office tomorrow. He will endure it. With speeches, new initiatives, and a glossy 32-page brochure on "the most action-orientated administration in our memory", the White House had sought to put the best possible spin on an occasion that it would have preferred to ignore.

But those efforts were spectacularly undermined yesterday by Leon Panetta, Mr Clinton's budget director. The president's clout on Capitol Hill was so diminished, Mr Panetta said, that his economic plan was in serious danger of being torn apart, his health reforms would have to be delayed, the North American Free Trade Agreement was for the time being "dead", and his Russian aid package was likely to be rejected.

But even before that reckless burst of candour from a man who knows Congress inside out, the White House mood was glum. The inauguration's giddy euphoria is now a poignant memory. The national optimism engendered by the president's election has been dissipated. Mr Clinton has the worst poll ratings of any modern president so early in his term, and the Republicans mockingly thank him for their resurrection.

The president claims in speeches to have "fundamentally changed the direction" of American government but his tone off-podium is wistful and defensive. "I have a lot to learn about this town," he acknowledged after the Senate scuppered his economic stimulus bill last week.

At a recent White House meeting, Thomas "Mack" McLarty, the White House chief of staff, tried to cheer up colleagues by recalling that only an attempted assassination revived President Reagan's early ratings. "Er, Mack, what are you suggesting here?" asked Rahm Emanuel, the political director. "Things aren't that bad."

The 100th day is in reality a silly milestone for Mr Clinton or any other leader, a legacy of Franklin Roosevelt who took power at a time of emergency and used his huge majorities on Capitol Hill to ram the New Deal's fundamentals through Congress.

Mr Clinton's 100th day falls at a singularly unpropitious moment, with the stimulus bill and the Waco debacle fresh in the memory. But the occasion generates a torrent of reviews which in Mr Clinton's case have been distinctly tepid. If people believe he is weak, his authority in Congress will be further eroded and he will find it hard to recover.

He must blame himself. He took office promising to focus, laser-like, on the economy. His greatest achievement was undoubtedly the breakneck production and selling of a $500 billion (£312 billion) deficit reduction plan that included the largest tax increases ever. But the laser, as one commentator put it, now looks like a strobe light.

Mr Clinton has lost the intense discipline of his campaign. He began squandering political capital within days of taking office by allowing the issue of homosexuals in the military to dominate the agenda. That was swiftly followed by his embarrassing three-bite hunt, born of political correctness, for the first female US attorney-general.

No one doubts Mr Clinton's vigour. In stark contrast to the minimalism of George Bush, he believes in activist government, and has a huge agenda. That is all very well, but to date he has filled just a fraction of his administration's several thousand posts.

Mr Clinton spent an entire day at an Oregon timber summit, but has yet to produce a coherent policy on international trade, an issue which will have a profound impact on his attempts to revive the American economy. His first important legislative defeat — on the economic stimulus package — and to an extent the Waco fiasco were the result of presidential inattention. Indeed no one quite knows where the administration is heading.

"The economy, stupid," is no longer the watchword. The "New Democrat" candidate who supported the death penalty and personal responsibility has become the president whose social agenda is topped by homosexual rights, the relaxation of abortion restrictions, and racial and sexual diversity.

Commentators and colleagues are urging him to emulate Mr Reagan, not Jimmy Carter, to refocus on basic goals. "I may have overextended myself," Mr Clinton confessed after taking stock of his position last weekend.

But the ledger is certainly not all negative. Mr Clinton is courageously confronting America's two great domestic problems of budget deficits and health care that his predecessors cravenly ignored.

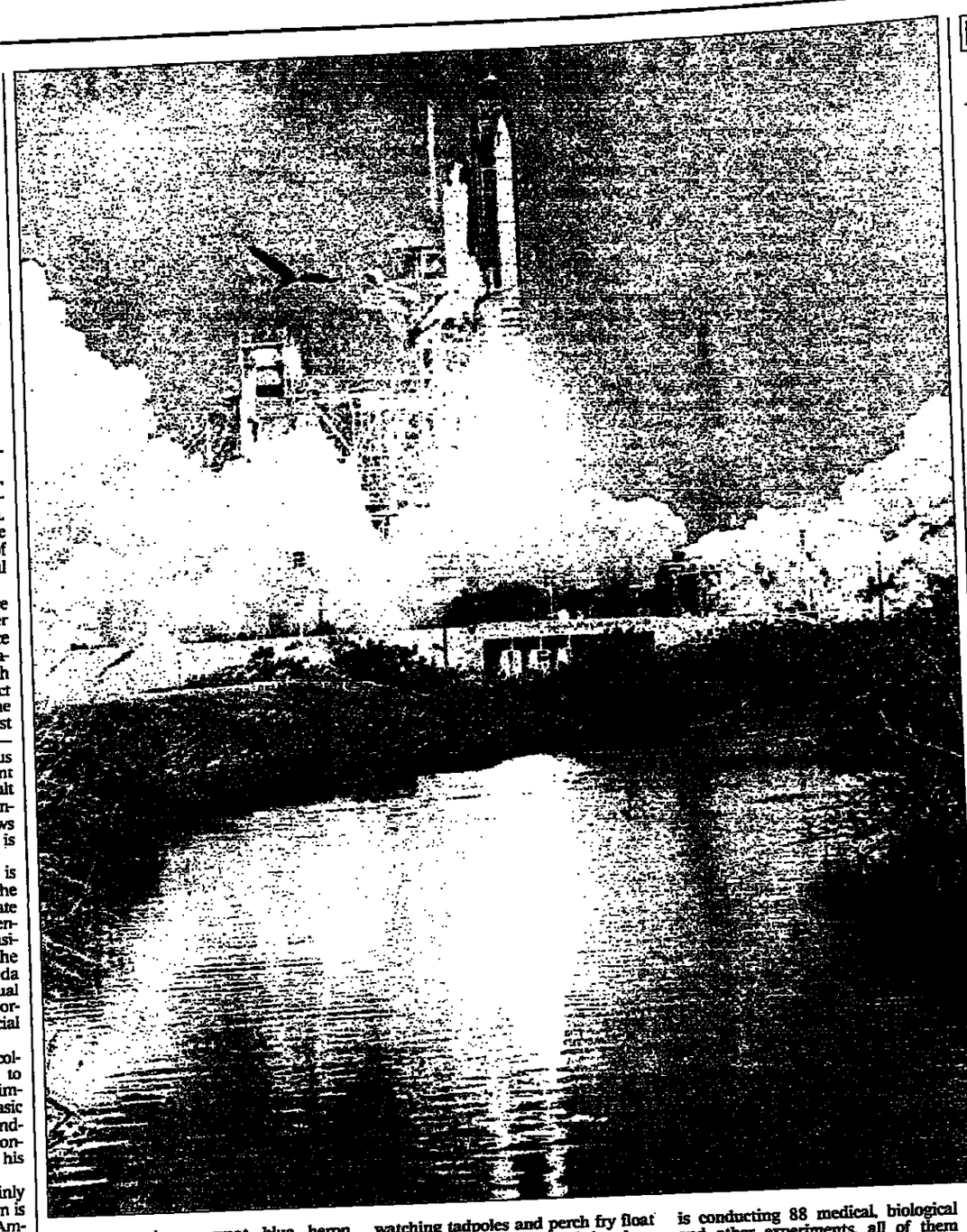
He backed President Yeltsin, galvanised the world into further aid for Russia, and can claim some credit for Sunday's referendum results. He has impressed as a world leader. He has broken promises, but mostly the irresponsible ones. He dared give his wife, Hillary, the most challenging assignment of his administration, revolutionising the one-seventh of the economy that makes up health care. On a personal level, he is vigorous, strikingly contemporary, relentlessly empathetic, a rapid learner, and a master of detail.

Mr Clinton is also amazingly resilient. With 1,300 days remaining before the next election, only a fool would write him off. Indeed he may confound his critics by becoming the first president celebrated for his second 100 days. It is in that period that he must decide on military intervention in Bosnia, and will unveil the health programme.

Those are the events likely to make or break this presidency. In the meantime, one poll figure offers him consolation. By 54 per cent to 28, Americans still consider him an improvement on George Bush.



Heads together: President Clinton dared give his wife, Hillary, the key job of reforming health care



Flight paths: a great blue heron soaring into the air in company with the Columbia shuttle as it takes off from the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida. The nine-day research flight will see the shuttle's crew of seven, including two German astronauts, watching tadpoles and perch fry float and dart about inside sealed chambers as part of their biological experiments. Scientists want to see how fish and frogs develop in the weightlessness of space, particularly the organs that provide the sense of balance. The crew is conducting 88 medical, biological and other experiments, all of them overseen by a control centre in Germany. Columbia's first countdown ended with an engine shutdown three seconds before lift-off last month because of a clogged valve.

Survivors' lawyers allege bias in arson report by Waco experts

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

AS THE confusing and contradictory enquiry into the blaze at the Waco cult compound continues, an independent team of investigators has issued a report confirming the FBI's claim that Branch Davidian members started the fire which killed 86 people in less than 30 minutes. Its findings were challenged at once as biased and unreliable.

The arson investigation team rejected survivors' claims that the fire had been caused when FBI tanks knocked over containers of lantern fuel as they rammed the building in an effort to force out the cult members, using tear gas, after 51 days' fruitless negotiations.

"This fire was intentionally set by persons inside the compound," said Paul Gray, assistant chief fire investigator in Houston, Texas, and head of the arson investigation team. He added that the blaze started simultaneously in at least two places in the building and some time after the last assault by the FBI tanks.

Those conclusions were dismissed by lawyers for the survivors, who said the arson investigation team could not conduct an impartial investigation because of its extensive links with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), the branch of the treasury that launched the first disastrous raid on the compound on February 28. Mr Gray's wife works for the bureau in Houston and every member of the arson team was recommended by the bureau, the lawyers said. "Until I see the evidence from an independent, impartial expert, I choose to believe the first-hand account of witnesses who were in the centre who said there was no fire started by the Branch Davidians," said Jack Zimmerman, who represented Steve Schneider, chief henchman to David Koresh, the cult leader. Koresh and Schneider are believed to have died in the fire.

"The ATF and FBI are front-runners in this field," Mr Gray told *The New York Times*. "You would have to go to another planet for experts who have not worked for them." However, the survivors' lawyers insist that the involvement of federal officials in the enquiry will weaken the public's confidence in the preliminary findings.

Post-mortem examinations have been performed on 12 of the 44 bodies pulled from the charred remains of the compound. Two of them apparently died of a single gunshot wound to the head, indicating probable suicide.

One of the bodies identifed was that of David Michael Jones, 38, a member of the inner circle of cult "warriors" surrounding Koresh known as the "Mighty Men". Jones, a postman, is reported to have played a crucial role in the intial confrontation when he noticed a television news van by the roadside on the morning of the raid and was warned by a TV photographer that an assault was imminent.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Arabs and Israelis try to end stalemate

Washington: Middle East talks resumed yesterday with the Arabs and Israel at least recognising that their stalemate must be brought to an end if the peace process is to retain any credibility (Ian Brodie writes).

As the session began, 396 Palestinian deportees were holding an ineffective protest under the nose of Israeli guns in southern Lebanon, and Israeli hardliners, such as the former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir, gave a warning that gestures of good will would only fuel Arab violence.

The State Department announced that Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, would meet all delegation heads in the first gathering of its kind since the talks opened in Madrid 18 months ago. His aim would be to emphasise that the Clinton administration wanted "full partnership" in the talks.

Judges' ransom

San José: Hooded men holding 19 Costa Rican supreme court judges at gunpoint demanded the release of a Colombian drug baron, $20 million (£12.5 million), and safe passage out of the country, officials said. *(Reuter)*

Coalition hitch

Karachi: Pakistan's week-old caretaker government, led by Mir Balakh Sher Mazari the prime minister, is on the verge of collapse as Benazir Bhutto and other political leaders threaten to withdraw support.

Bush plot

Kuwait: Iraqi intelligence had planned to assassinate George Bush, the former American president, with a car bomb during his visit here earlier this month, Kuwaiti agents said. *(Reuter)*

Floods kill 42

Bogotá: Forty-two people are known to have died when floods tore through a remote rural area of northwesern Colombia. Scores more were missing and hundreds were made homeless, police said. *(AFP)*

Cash flow

Phnom Penh: Fake Thai banknotes, mostly in he 100 baht (£2.50) denomination, have flooded into Cambodia and could create an economic crisis before general elections, which are due to be held next month. *(Reuter)*

Sofia suicide

Sofia: A daughter of Fresident Zhelev of Bulgaria has committed suicide. *Trud* reported that Yordanka Zheleva, 22, had poisoned herself *(Reuter)*

Regal legal

Corfu: Deposed King Constantine of Greece is suing Corfu for trespass after the mayor opened the royal estate to tourists. *(Reuter)*

Eritreans cast 99% vote for freedom

FROM JONATHAN CLAYTON IN ASMARA

ERITREANS voted almost unanimously for independence from Ethiopia in a landmark referendum after 30 years of civil war which ended in May 1991. Provisional results of the United Nations-monitored poll, released yesterday, showed that more than 99 per cent of votes were cast in favour of independence for the Red Sea province.

Amare Tekle, head of the Eritrean referendum commission, said that 1,100,260 voted "yes" and only 1,822 voted "no". More than 98 per cent of 1,173,506 registered voters participated in the ballot.

The UN said its observers had concluded that the nationwide three-day poll was "free and fair". Samir Sanbar, the special United Nations representative, said his teams had covered virtually all the 1,014 polling stations in Eritrea and had uncovered only minor irregularities.

"I have the honour to certify that, on the whole, the referendum process in Eritrea can be considered to have been free and fair at every stage, and that it has been conducted to my satisfaction," he said.

Mr Amare said the final result could not be disclosed until some 53,878 postal ballots had been included. The outcome of the vote was a foregone conclusion. Polls opened last Friday and triggered national celebrations.

A formal declaration of independence will be made on May 24 — the second anniversary of the defeat by Eritrean guerrillas of forces loyal to Mengistu Haile Mariam, the fallen Ethiopian dictator.

Eritrea, a former Italian colony federated with Ethiopia by the UN in 1952, has enjoyed de facto independence for the past two years. The former guerrillas of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front agreed to put off a formal declaration until a UN-monitored poll settled the issue in international eyes.

Immediately after the provisional result was announced, Negaso Gidada, Ethiopia's information minister, congratulated the Eritrean people and said his country looked forward to close co-operation in all areas. "The transitional government of Ethiopia happily accepts and respects the decision of the Eritrean people to have an independent Eritrea."

The liberation front has pledged that the world's newest country will have a multiparty constitution and a free economy.

Eritrea, occupying a strategic position on the Red Sea, was devastated by its long war and the liberation front estimates it will need $2 billion (£1.27 billion) in emergency aid to get the economy started and repair the ruined infrastructure. *(Reuter)*

Confrontation in Hong Kong

Peking outflanks Patten with victory in business forum

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

CHINA has scored another victory in its campaign to subdue Hong Kong by capturing five of the six contested seats on the 24-member General Chamber of Commerce.

Hong Kong citizens will note the importance of three of the new members: a delegate to the National People' Congress, China's parliament: a member of the Political Consultative Congress, which also does as the party wants; and a former close colleague of Zhu Rongji, a deputy prime minister and the man tipped to succeed Deng Xiaoping when he dies.

"It's a turning point for the pro-China group within the chamber," said Jimmy McGregor, a member of the chamber and its representative on the colony's Legislative Council, and one of Peking's longest-term adversaries in Hong Kong. Mr McGregor himself is on the endangered list both in the chamber and on the council, and may lose his council seat in the 1995 elections, when Peking will press hard to force out supporters of the governor, Chris Patten.

Although James Tien, one of the pro-Peking victors, claimed that "the chamber's business is business", the 3,600 members, representing both small businessmen and the great trading houses, is Hong Kong's most influential business body.

One of those swept from the chamber was Martin Barrow, head of Jardine Pacific Ltd, part of Jardine Matheson, the oldest trader in the colony. Jardine has been attacked by Peking for months, for having moved its corporate headquarters to Bermuda in 1984, soon after the Anglo-Chinese joint declaration, and for refusing to join other business leaders in attacking Mr Patten's plan to extend democracy in Hong Kong. The Barrow loss will be especially gratifying to Peking, as he was in line to become the chamber's next chairman.

Peking will be delighted by the victory of Chang Wingkee, the delegate to the National People's Congress, and one of China's advisers on Hong Kong, designated as "patriotic" by the Chinese — a code term for anyone who attacks the Patten plan.

Alex Ye, another new chamber member, is the Hong Kong representative on the Shanghai Foreign Investment Commission, but more important still was in 1988 the executive vice-chairman of the Shanghai investment commission, which was formed by Mr Zhu, the deputy prime minister, when he was Shanghai's mayor.

The victory for China's interest in the colony is a significant example of the Chinese arm-twisting and manoeuvring which is eroding Mr Patten's support even among members of the Hong Kong community who welcomed his plan last October. Both the British and Chinese negotiating teams in Peking will see the chamber vote for what it is: a sign that Hong Kong's business community believes it cannot afford to antagonise the big market across the border.

☐ **Singapore:** China and Taiwan, easing four decades of Cold War hostility, yesterday agreed to set up a formal channel for negotiations on a range of economic and social issues.

The agreement was announced on the first of two days of talks here, the highest-level contact between the two old enemies since the end of the Chinese civil war in 1949. A Taiwan spokesman, Cheyne Chiu, said Taiwan and China had drafted agreements for regular meetings between the two semi-official organisations that deal with ties in the absence of diplomatic relations. *(Reuter)*



Treurnicht: buried near apartheid's architect

Afrikaners mourn Treurnicht

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN PRETORIA

UP TO 3,000 whites, most of them Afrikaners, flocked to central Pretoria yesterday to attend the funeral service of Andries Treurnicht, the leader of the far-right Conservative Party, who died last week.

Afterwards, mourners went to Pretoria West cemetery, where Treurnicht was buried near his hero, the architect of apartheid, Hendrik Verwoerd. About 1,000 people attended the service, and 2,000 listened to a broadcast in the city centre. Several hundred went to the cemetery, as Treurnicht was given a family burial as the national anthem played.

Treurnicht formed his party in 1982 as a breakaway from the ruling Nationalists.

Rajasthan flouts law as thousands of children get married

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

THOUSANDS of children have been married this week in Rajasthan in an annual ritual that defies and mocks the law. The festival is called *akhateej*, when boys and girls aged from four to 12 are given partners for life.

The police made token attempts to ban some weddings, but most villages in the desert state were left alone to perform the ancient ceremonies. Many posted guards on village outskirts to keep outsiders away until the rites were over; any policemen who turned up were sent away with bribes.

The police admit that nobody was arrested or charged under legislation banning child marriages, arguing that the custom is too popular and deeply rooted for any ban to be effective. According to one report yesterday from Jaipur, more than 7,000 marriages took place in the Tonk district south of the city without interference from the authorities. Across the state, the figure was probably tens of thousands.

Throughout the Jaipur area "there was not a single village where such marriages did not take place", according to the *Hindustan Times*. "The parents of child brides and bridegrooms were not afraid of the administration and the marriages took place with pomp and show." In the village of Titariya, the entire population turned out to provide financial assistance to Pokhar Ram, who married off three daughters and a son.

Entire villages in the Jaipur district turned out for wedding feasts and music festivals, when the bemused young brides and grooms eyed each other, often for the first time. The "couples" will live apart until they are ready to consummate their marriages. At that time, further haggling over dowry takes place and brides' parents slide further into debt.

Only in urban areas were the ceremonies performed discreetly, for fear of attracting police attention. Parents of child brides and grooms chased away press photographers, aware that publication of their photographs could lead to prosecution. Clearly, however, there is no political will to ban child marriage: the law outlawing the practice in Rajasthan has rarely been implemented.

Many of the children were dressed in full marriage attire, and some grooms from better off families arrived on horseback. The occasions are a lottery when the fathers of sons collect whatever dowry money and gifts they can extract. It is a glorious time for moneylenders, a hated breed whose excessive interest rates keep whole families in debt for generations.

صكذا من الاصل

Senators strip away more of Andreotti's armour



Andreotti: he insists that he is not afraid of the truth and intends to defend his innocence with firmness amid a political "climate of intimidation"

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

■ Abstentions by his own party put Italy's elder statesman on course to stand trial for alleged connections to the Mafia

GIULIO Andreotti, a life senator, elder statesman of the Christian Democratic party and former Italian prime minister, should have his parliamentary immunity from prosecution waived to enable allegations to be investigated that he plotted with the Sicilian Mafia, a senate committee recommended yesterday.

The decision, by 11 votes to one with 11 abstentions, was reached as Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, 72, the prime minister-designate and governor of the Bank of Italy, prepared a cabinet to present to President Scalfaro for approval. Signor Ciampi must then face a vote of confidence in the Chamber of Deputies before becoming Italy's first non-parliamentarian prime minister in the postwar republic. Yesterday he saw only Mario Segni, who inspired the April 18 referendum in which voters backed electoral reform.

Signor Andreotti, 74, who personified the old Cold War system, faces a full senate vote on his immunity on May 6. After yesterday's committee vote, he said: "I am not afraid of the truth and will confront proceedings with firmness and decision to smash this incredible machination." He claimed that "pressure has been organised on the *giunta* [senate committee] to create a climate of intimidation".

Three Mafia informers have said that Signor Andreotti met Sicilian underworld bosses, including Salvatore "Toto" Riina, allegedly the current head of Cosa Nostra. One supergrass, Baldassere Di Maggio, claims the Christian Democrat politician exchanged a "kiss of respect" in a Palermo flat with Signor Riina, who was captured in January.

The committee member who voted against the motion was Luigi Compagna, a Liberal senator. The Christian Democrats abstained. "We contend that all the accusations were unfounded and, if it goes to trial, Andreotti will demonstrate fully his innocence," said Giovanni Cocco, who was one of them.

Signor Ciampi hopes to usher in a new era by filling his administration with technical experts to preside over electoral reform until a general election is held before next spring. Newspapers said yesterday that he might name Giuliano Amato, the outgoing prime minister, as foreign minister, although Signor Amato said he would retire from politics after his government was brought down last week by the referendum vote backing political reform and by the corruption scandal engulfing the country.

Nicola Mancino, the interior minister, was expected to continue in the new cabinet, but a replacement was likely for Salvatore Ando, the defence minister, who is under investigation on suspicion of having bought votes from the Mafia.

Signor Ciampi appears assured of support from most MPs in the four parties in Signor Amato's administration — the Socialists, Christian Democrats, Liberals and Social Democrats. But he needs wider support if he is to get electoral reform through parliament, which is divided over whether to introduce a single or two-round system of elections for the lower house.

The opposition Democratic Party of the Left has said it will await Signor Ciampi's programme before deciding whether to support him. The former communists are in particular pressing Signor Ciampi to spell out his views on an amnesty for the 2,600 politicians, businessmen and officials implicated in the corruption scandal.



Riina: allegedly greeted with "kiss of respect"

Mafiosi women in prison protest

FROM REUTER IN ROME

WIVES and mothers of jailed *mafiosi* held a noisy protest over prison conditions yesterday opposite the prime minister's office in Rome.

"We demand our rights. We want to see our men once a week," chanted 100 women from the heartlands of the Camorra — the Naples Mafia — while their children blew whistles and sounded horns.

Adele, a formidable woman with a megaphone, said: "Who is going to try [former justice minister Claudio] Martelli and send him to prison? The big fish always gobble up the little ones." Signor Martelli resigned in February over allegations of political corruption. Last year, he clamped down on prison visits for *mafiosi* and sent hundreds to island jails after two leading anti-Mafia judges were killed. The authorities claim that jailed gangsters use family visits to run their criminal empires, one reason they are not allowed physical contact with visitors.

France pleads for respite from flood of EC regulations

FROM REUTER IN PARIS

FRANCE'S conservative government, keen to appease Euro-sceptics, urged the European Community yesterday to end an "inflationary" spiral of new rules and give member states time to catch their breath.

Alain Lamassoure, the European affairs minister, said the centre-right government wanted the EC to allow countries time to catch up with putting existing directives into effect and reduce new measures. "It has to put a stop to measures relating to member states and concentrate more on applying [existing rules]," he said after briefing a parliamentary committee. He said almost one in five European Community rules had yet to be implemented.

M Lamassoure's comments reflected the government's desire to placate the many Euro-sceptics within the centre-right majority that won last month's general election. The government wants to give a greater say to the many conservative deputies who opposed the Maastricht treaty, without calling into question the strong pro-European tilt of Edouard Balladur, the prime minister.

About half of the parliamentarians from M Balladur's Gaullist (RPR) party, which is the biggest in the national assembly, rejected the Maastricht accords on political, economic and monetary union. Voters narrowly approved the treaty in a referendum last September. Philippe Séguin, the new parliamentary Speaker, was one of the leaders of the anti-Maastricht camp, which claimed that the treaty would strip France of its sovereign rights.

M Lamassoure said that the Maastricht debate had convinced the government of the need to involve French citizens more closely with the Community and to make EC institutions clearer. Parliament would be able to exercise greater control over the government and strengthen the hand of ministers at EC negotiations if it registered its opinion with a vote before key Community decisions, he said.

M Lamassoure also said yesterday that the EC's plan to scrap all border controls on people, already four months behind schedule, will not take effect before next year. He said that Germany's failure to ratify the Schengen accord on free circulation within the EC and the absence of controls on drug shipments from The Netherlands made border controls necessary. Further, Italy had to strengthen checks at its borders before the accord could be implemented, he added.



Balladur: an EC fan from a divided party

Rasmussen confident Danes will vote 'yes'

FROM REUTER IN COPENHAGEN

POUL Nyrup Rasmussen, the Danish prime minister, expressed confidence yesterday that Danes would vote "yes" in their second referendum on the Maastricht treaty on May 18 and gave a warning against another "no" result.

"I am very confident about a 'yes' result," he said after his weekly cabinet meeting.

Commenting on recent remarks by Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, that Britain might join the other European Community states in a new union treaty if Denmark rejected the Maastricht accord next month, Mr Rasmussen said: "It looks more and more obvious that the other EC countries would seek a new model for advancing European co-operation without Denmark after they got over the initial shock of a fresh Danish 'no'."

Mr Hurd said on Sunday that Britain might seek new political and economic co-operation in the Community if Danes voted against. His comments were seen by Danish observers as an apparent shift from London's previous insistence that Denmark should not be left behind.

"Mr Hurd's remarks underline the fact that anything other than a 'yes' would be a profoundly serious crisis for Denmark," Mr Rasmussen said. He described the foreign secretary's remarks as "a death blow" to the 'no' campaign. "I see his comments as confirming my fears that Denmark's negotiating position after another 'no' would be poor in the extreme."

Recent opinion polls show about 50 per cent of Danes favour the treaty, with 30 per cent opposed and the remainder undecided or abstaining.

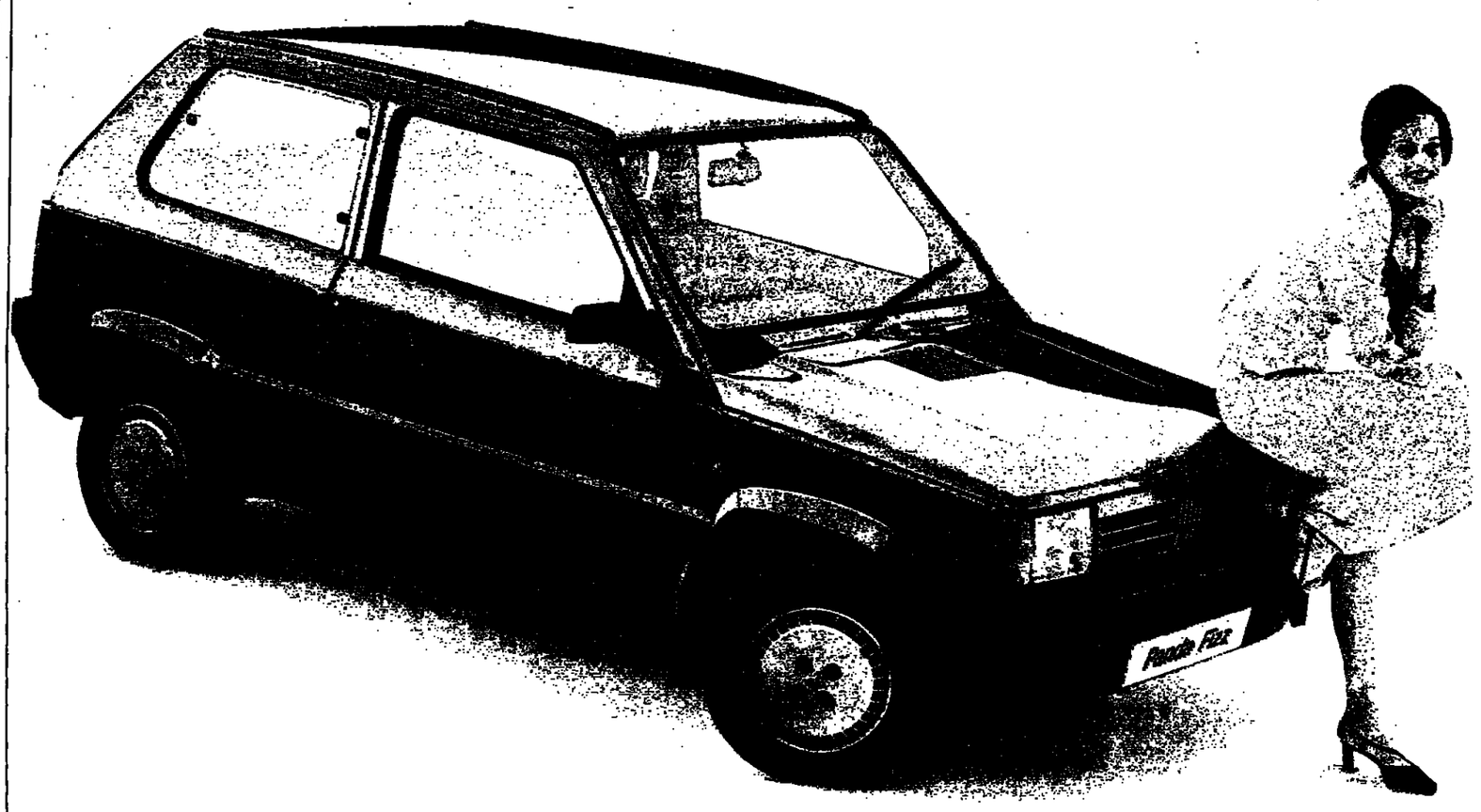
Denmark's second referendum will be on an opt-out deal secured by Copenhagen at the EC's December summit in Edinburgh, exempting the country from Community plans for a joint defence policy, a common currency and union citizenship.

☐ **Stockholm:** Mr Hurd said yesterday that he expected Danes to approve the Maastrict accord. If they did not, "the treaty would not proceed ... We don't expect the Danish people to say 'no'. A Danish 'no' would create a serious situation," he said, adding that Community leaders would meet in the event of a rejection.

Mr Hurd also said that a detailed progress report on EC membership talks with Sweden, Norway, Finland and Austria was expected to be presented at the June summit. *(AP)*

Treaty row, page 10
Leading article, page 17

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Do you pen oppressed verse left-handed? Are you a cyberpunk bard? **Kate Muir** catches New York's beat poets of the nineties

Write on, you New Bohemians

Towards midnight a writer, wearing velvet and dreadlocks, hands over his caramel-coloured baby and heads for the platform at the Nuyorican Poets' Cafe. A woman trumpeter with two-inch metallic-blue fingernails relinquishes the stage. In the Saturday crowd, beards abound. A vast décolletage shudders by, hidden only by suede fringes, but its owner — like everyone else here — is sure to be a serious artist. These are the New Bohemians, continuing where the beat poets left off. But for the lack of cigarette smoke, the room could come straight from the early sixties.

Like a rash, poetry has broken out across New York. On an average night, the poetry punter can locate 15 performances. Rather than attending dance clubs, it is all the rage for the young and hip(pie) to take part in readings which often combine rap, ethnic music and performance art with poems.

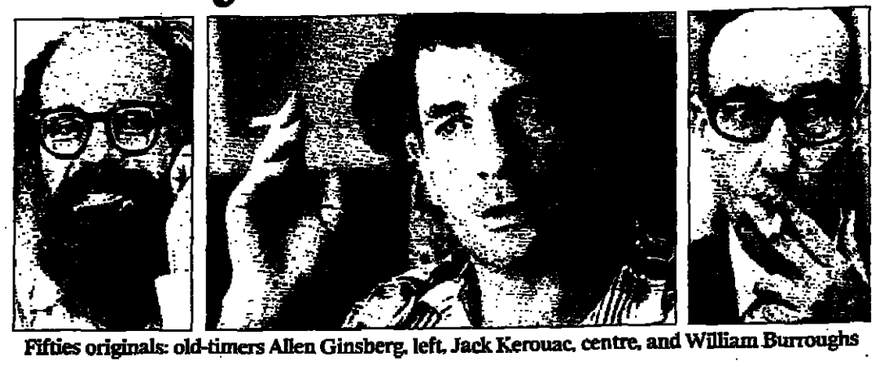
In a dubious part of the East Village known as Alphabet City, the Nuyorican (pronounced New-Yor-eek-an) Poets' Café is at its zenith. "It's happening," says the cafe's founder Miguel Algarin. "It's gonna be very hot," he says referring to Saturday's show. "There's a lot of great activity. Performances. A 16-piece salsa band. But poetry... poetry is the living breath of the place."

This is indeed the case. Even the bathroom walls are dedicated to the art. "I'm not gonna suck/ On the blueprint of the air-conditioned guru," notes the ladies' room graffiti. The gents' includes: "Tiptoeing on the sharp edge of a broken empire/ We speak with razor tongues."

For a $5 entrance, who can find fault? Besides, where else can you wear sunglasses indoors without feeling out of place?

Later this week, the café has a special evening for left-handed poets only, as well as the usual mixed bag slots for feminist, Rastafarian, lesbian, rap, environmentalist, cyberpunk and even deaf poets, who perform in sign language. The menu is so culturally diverse it borders on mass schizophrenia.

This is where the New Bohemians differ from the be-bop and beat days. The flares and wooden chairs in dark brick-walled basements are much the same, but most of the beat poets were young white men looking for the anguish in their souls. Today, young white men lack street cred as poets since they are not sufficiently oppressed (special exceptions are made for homosexuals). In poetry "slams" — talent nights judged by the audience — the white male rates low on the clapometer. Another change from the late fifties and early sixties, is that no one nowadays is doing heavy drugs. A little dope may change hands outside, and popular headgear includes a black baseball cap with a green marijuana leaf emblem: but the new movement is about art, not acid. "My brothers who are dead look down here and say this is righteous, man, because we're having good, clean fun," says Jimmy Santiago, poet and film-maker.



Fifties originals: old-timers Allen Ginsberg, left, Jack Kerouac, centre, and William Burroughs

Tonight it seems these poets are all talking about the experience of fatherhood, an alien concept to their predecessors like Allen Ginsberg, William Burroughs and Jack Kerouac. In a black felt hat, Santiago declaims new-mannishly about returning late at night to his cold living room, picking up his baby son and holding him in "the hot shade of my flesh". "Tonight my baby is he and I am me./ Tears salt to freezing in my heart and we melt into one."

Later, when discussing writing the screenplay for his film *Down by Honour*, about the experience of chicano families in America, he explains his enthusiasm: "Have you ever seen a baby in a crib filled with whipped cream? I dove into that with the ecstasy of a whale." Making the film, he modestly informs the audience, was "a huge, huge act of integrity".

Such upfront pretension fits easily into the wave of sixties nostalgia and grunge engulfing America. Not for nothing were there three biographies released this year of the eternally-stoned "gonzo" writer Hunter S. Thompson, as well as a recent literary recreation of the famous Magic Bus trip (in both senses) taken by beat poets.

Poetry clubs are re-surfacing throughout New York to milk the new mood. New Bohemians can be spotted at the Moroccan-style Fez club, the Elbo Room and the Nuyorican.

At the Cornelia Street Café in Greenwich Village, the cellar crowd on Sunday night is half Greek, listening to songs and English translations from the homosexual poet Constantine Cavafy, "on the 130th anniversay of his death and the 60th anniversary of his birth". This is also where singer Suzanne Vega tried out her poetry before she was officially discovered. The cafe was founded by a writer, a sculptor and an actor, and invites "bohemes and beatniks" to its daily "kulturklatsch".

Trendsniffers should note that the MTV pop channel has just run a series featuring seven New York poets who perform 30-second sound-bites of their greatest works.

That is a lot of bad poetry for one city. But the aspiring New Bohemian can take heart from the words of beatnik Ken Kesey, author of *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*. Of the excesses of the Magic Bus tour he wrote: "Unless you get up very near that precipice where you're likely to make a fool of yourself, you're not showing much of how you feel. You're playing it safe."

PHIL COBURN



Unwanted visitor: the anti-abortionist Don Treshman, shown the door by Britain, represents a strong lobby in America where so far there is no compromise on the issue

Irreconcilable differences

The gap between extremists on abortion and euthanasia will not be bridged by invoking the sanctity of life, argues **Alan Ryan**

Professor Dworkin's reflections in yesterday's *Times* on abortion and euthanasia are as interesting as anything he has ever written. But they strike oddly on an English ear, and not very persuasively.

Dworkin takes the arrival in Britain of Don Treshman and Rescue America as a sign that the compromise over abortion law, worked out in 1967 and reaffirmed several times since, has broken down. From the American side of the Atlantic, it has looked more significant that the British government promptly threw Treshman out of the country as a threat to public order. The greatest difference between Britain and America is the ability of the British government to make compromise stick: what public opinion is ready to accept in the two countries is not very different.

In America, things look disorderly because in many localities public opinion, local law makers, local police and local judges are fiercely anti-choice, much as they are fiercely anti-homosexual and fiercely hostile to most kinds of secular, liberal thinking. How far the federal government can go in enforcing women's access to abortion clinics is debatable as a matter of law.

Most issues of law and order are matters for the local police, not federal agents, and protest is a constitutional right — and touchy as a matter of politics. Presidents do not want to alienate their supporters in Congress, and members of Congress are much more sensitive to the passions of their constituents than MPs.

The recent rise in temperature in the American debate has much to do with the change in administration. The anti-choice camp has lost its friends in the White House, and is not pleased. Whether their rage is well founded is another matter. President Clinton has withdrawn the Bush administration's decree that federally funded birth-control clinics could not even *talk* about abortion: how much further he will go is anybody's guess. He wants to overturn the legislation that forbids hospitals spending federal funds on abortion, but even an overwhelmingly Democratic Congress is not sure it can be done.

To an English eye, the peculiarity of American controversy is the distance between rhetoric and public opinion. The public is broadly in favour of women being able to secure abortion, and not in favour of children being able to do it without reference to their parents or some plausible stand-in; and not at all happy with the fire-bombing and other antics of the pro-life extremists, nor with the pro-choice rhetoric of their opponents. They would, so far as anyone can tell, readily settle for the law as it has been in Britain for the past 25 years.

What is much less clear is that they would settle for a compromise in the terms offered by Dworkin. One would think that announcing that the battle really is over the sanctity of life is pouring kerosene on the conflagration. It is exactly because they take their stand on the sanctity of life that the pro-life movement is so insistent that a foetus is a person at conception, and it is because they can see where the sanctity of life argument leads that pro-choice leaders have stuck unyieldingly to a woman's right to choose.

Dworkin's argument comes trailing the American Constitution in its wake. The Supreme Court has had a hard time applying the Constitution to the sexual revolution of the past 30 years, and nowhere has it had a harder time than over abortion. In 1965, the court decided that a Connecticut statute against contraception violated the Fourth Amendment. This amendment prohibited unwarrantable search and seizure, and originated during the reign of George III in attempts to secure the printers of opposition papers and pamphlets against raids by government agents. Grasping at whatever they could, the justices decided that it reflected a general "right to privacy" that the constitution did not mention.

In *Roe versus Wade*, the Court waved a hand towards the Fifth Amendment, the Fourteenth Amendment, and the Ninth Amendment — the first two of which concern due process, and the last which merely announces that there are rights not mentioned in the Bill of Rights that the people still possess.

Whether one of these unmentioned rights was the right to abortion on demand was not discussed, nor was the rather obvious point that the creature most likely to be deprived of life and liberty without due process of law was the foetus rather than the mother. Instead, the court decided "privacy" implied a right to abortion, and the next matter was to balance the interests of the mother in being able to terminate a pregnancy with the state's interest in protecting "human life".

Once the court had reached that point, it was not difficult to decide that the state's interests in protecting life got stronger as the foetus became more nearly a baby, while the mother's interests in ending the pregnancy for anything other than preventing a threat to her own life became weaker. The court could then produce as a matter of constitutional law the policy of allowing abortion at will in the first trimester and requiring increasingly strong grounds for abortion thereafter.

But because America has no national health service, there could be no national regulation of how and where abortion was performed, and no way of ensuring that the "right" to an abortion meant anything to the hard up. For the past ten years or so, America has been paying the price — safe abortion is effectively unavailable to the poor, patchily available in most of rural America, and poorly integrated with gynaecological health care generally.

Dworkin rightly laments all this, but still thinks in terms of constitutional rights. He wants to get his compatriots away from rights to privacy and balancing acts between the mother's interests, the foetus's interests, and state legislatures' interests, and on to the terrain of the First Amendment. This protects freedom of religion and freedom of speech; it has been extended to protect freedom of conscience in innumerable areas. But I cannot believe such a manoeuvre will succeed.

Dworkin allows that the state may have the right to ensure that an abortion decision is taken responsibly. This is already a recipe for renewed strife. Many states will do their damnedest to convert permission to promote responsibility as a licence to bombard women with anti-abortion literature, as the state of Pennsylvania already has done. Conversely, many women will regard it as their own business how responsible they are, not Dworkin's, and least of all their local legislature's.

Nor is it plausible that we will necessarily make better or easier decisions by asking "which decision better respects the sanctity of life?" Mothers contemplating abortion are likely to think the question just raises another — "the sanctity of *whose* life, mine or this foetus's?" Family members wondering whether the time has come to remove life-support from a comatose relative are likely to find the question just unhelpful.

Our attitude to life is in some broad sense "religious"; a patient in a persistent vegetative state is not a vegetable but a human being to whom a disaster has occurred; and, rather early in pregnancy, a foetus is human enough in appearance to arouse protective feelings in most people. But between those who think all abortion is murder and their opponents who think they are mad, it is hard to see what compromise can be reached.

The author is professor of politics at Princeton University.

THE RIGHT TO LIFE: A TIMES/DILLONS DEBATE

WHAT are the rights and wrongs of abortion and euthanasia? Who has the right to decide? Ronald Dworkin, professor of law at New York and professor of jurisprudence at Oxford, leads this Times/Dillons debate: when do we have the right to end a life?

Author of *Life's Dominion*, Professor Dworkin will be supported in his "pro-choice" views by Dr Steve Jones, head of genetics and biometry at University College. Challenging them will be David Alton, MP, and Mary Kenny, the journalist and broadcaster.

It takes place on May 18 at 7.30pm at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1. Readers of *The Times* can obtain tickets either by completing the coupon below, calling at Dillons the Bookstore, 82 Gower Street, London WC1E, 'phoning Dillons on 071-915 6613, or faxing on 071-580 7680.

Tickets include £2 towards buying *Life's Dominion*, published on May 25 at £17.50, valid on the debate evening.

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Brand X puts the big names on the run

Famous labels now have surprising competitors, reports **Paul Barker**

"'YOU'RE very welcome, Mr Bond.' Halloran smiled and offered him a fresh pack of Luckies. 'We want to make your stay comfortable. Anything you want, just say so and it's yours.'"

What James Bond wanted, and got, from the FBI was: "a Swank tie-clip in the shape of a whip, an alligator-skin billfold from Mark Cross, a plain Zippo lighter, a plastic Travel-Pac containing razor, hairbrush and toothbrush, a pair of horn-rimmed glasses with plain lenses, various other oddments and, finally, a lightweight Hartmann Skymate suitcase to contain all these things."

Thus, Secret Agent 007 in 1954, in *Live and Let Die*. Bond was the Hero of the Brand Name. He has become a brand name himself, in films that bear less and less relation to the books Ian Fleming actually wrote. In this, he was an apt symbol of his times. He bombarded Smersh and its Soviet paymasters not only with wit and special effects, but also with the almighty brand name. The enemy, in this consumer Cold War, had nothing to protect himself with except drearily standard state products.

This Cold War, like the political variety, was also won by the West. When communism collapsed, it released a huge, pent-up longing for Levi jeans, Marlboro cigarettes, Pepsi. But now, it seems, the brand war victors may be starting to walk away from the spoils. Worried by competition from American stores' own-brand cigarettes, Philip Morris this month cut the price of Marlboro by 20 per cent. In Britain, Safeway is running a special promotion based on the notion that own-brand products are starting to creep ahead of manufacturers' brands. Already 40 per cent of Safeway's sales are own-brand. This week, if you buy Alpine muesli or Phileas Fogg tortilla chips, you get a packet of the cheaper Safeway version free, to woo you over.

Marks & Spencer is Safeway's acknowledged model. The classic fifties underwear ad was "I dreamed I raced with the wind in my Maidenform bra". For many years now, British breasts have heaved mainly inside a St Michael's. And the M & S food shelves are increasingly a gourmet's delight.

Yet — and here's the cultural rub — M & S food is often dearer than its branded competitor. If you want to shop cheap, you go round the corner from Marks & Spencer, where KwikSave flourishes by offering Heinz baked beans and White's cream soda to all comers. Is the brand name starting on a historic slide downhill?

It will be an ironic fate, if it is. Brand names began, in the 19th century, as a guarantee of quality for the masses. They flourished as the working class started to pull itself up into relative affluence. Your friendly corner-shop grocer was probably, in real life, selling soap that would take the skin off your face.

Enter William Lever, with his Sunlight soap, or Pears & Co., with its omnipresent reproduction of Millais's *Bubbles*. People bought brand names, not just because of the vast and innovative advertising, but because they were a genuine improvement.

Brand names and their advertising campaigns have been the true People's Poetry. "Even your closest friends won't tell you" (Listerine, 1920s); "We are the Ovaltineys, happy girls and boys" (1930s); "Can you tell Stork from butter?" (1950s); "Let your fingers do the walking" (Bell's Yellow Pages, 1960s); "American Express... That'll do nicely, sir" (1970s); "The man from Del Monte says Yes" (1980s). All these have made it into the *Oxford Dictionary of Modern Quotations*.



Advertising campaigns have been the People's Poetry

Brand names are not, of course, about to fade away altogether. The top is still the tops. *Vanity Fair* photographs Annette Bening and tells us that "she is sitting pretty in a dress by Jil Sander and shoes by Bennis Warren Edwards". These are brand names for insiders, not for the rest of us.

On television and in the cinema, brand name commercials have entered a stage of *fin de siècle* decadence. They tell you a little story, a romance for the 1990s, about a lager, a make of jeans, or a car. They are full of exquisite, highly mannerist photography. In the background thunders blues music from the 1950s. They need that tribute to the heyday of the consumer age to give the ad any emotional power at all. Otherwise, it is enraptured by its own cleverness. It is unconvinced that the brand name, on its own, will sell.

And quite right, too. Competition and safety regulations have made most cars, for example, almost identical. They even have the same shape. By the same process, own-brand products have crept up from their old perception as slightly cheaper and slightly worse.

We are no longer prepared to leave the past alone. We colour-tint old classic films, like Fritz Lang's *Metropolis*. We re-write Enid Blyton. I can see it coming:

"Bond finished his Safeway muesli, slipped on his M & S loafers, and checked that his silver hip flask was well topped up with Sainsbury's best Scotch. He peered out of the window before he left. There was something odd about the man on the other side of the street. At a glance, he seemed like a gentleman, but he was smoking a Marlboro, and his tie looked like one of Liberty's. He had to be an imposter."

No brands for Bond, next time around. You have to draw the social line somewhere.

هكذا من الاصل

City that sets its own trends

ROBIN MAYES



The Lakota club: gauzy dresses with clumpy shoes, funny woollen hats, beads and grunge may now be high style, but in Bristol flares have always lurked beneath the surface

Unpretentious Bristol, with its unwashed hair, its grunge, rasta and raves, and its whiff of joss sticks, is back in fashion. **Alice Thomson** reports

Saturday night at the Lakota club in Montpelier. Bristol, and Emma is squatting against a pounding wall in a pair of satin straps, flared jeans and leather waistcoat talking to her friend, tie-dye bell-bottomed Nick. Outside Mark and Ian dressed in loon pants are eating fish and chips while they discuss whether they can be bothered to apply for the Hong Kong police force. They let the warm rain course down their rat-ended hair.

Bristol is principally noted for riots at St Paul's, suicides at the Clifton suspension bridge and Harveys Bristol Cream, the best known remnant of Bristol's trading past. Jane Austen pretty much ignored it: tourists still do. Always being touted as the next big financial centre or music scene, it never quite happens.

But if Bristolians have seemed a littler chirpier of late or slightly springier of step, it is with some reason. Suddenly their native look has put them back on the style map. Ralph Lauren may have only just discovered gauzy dresses with clumpy shoes, funny woollen hats, beads and grunge. But in Bristol flares have always lurked beneath the surface and joss sticks have been burning secretly in bedrooms.

Bristol youth has never had a hair-do and usually looks a little ragged around the edges, mixing spangly Lurex trousers with Marks & Spencer's cardigans. They are pale creatures who would hate to look obviously successful. If anywhere can claim to be the San Francisco of Britain, it is Bristol.

It probably has something to do with the ley lines. Bristol lies at the centre of the New Age traveller trail, half way between Arthurian Glastonbury and Celtic Wales. This means that the mystical rather than the practical flourishes, and young Bristolians tend to share a broad vegetarian-Green ideology. Walking up Park Row in central Bristol, you first come to a crystal shop, then the Druids Friendly Society, a fortune teller, a juggling shop, a barometer shop and The Organic Food And Farming Centre. The Caribbean influence adds a touch of the exotic and a strong bass beat to Bristol's rhythm.

Plastic surgeons, personal trainers and Nautilus machines are not Bristol. Raves, where young people gather in a barn one stop up the motorway for an evening of vigorous self-expression, are. And where else would people spend weekends playing competition dominos or dressing up as Eric the Red on the Downs?

> Plastic surgeons and personal trainers are not Bristol

All this takes place against a civilised backdrop of decaying Georgian crescents, Victorian tobacco warehouses and Quaker buildings. The centre of Bristol, rebuilt after the war as one vast shopping complex, seems utterly at odds with all its surroundings. Trendy Bristolians live in Kingsdown, Montpelier and St Paul's. They go to Daphne's Cafe for mushrooms on toast and bicycle to work along the cobbles. Convinced that grunge started here amid the decaying pot plants and tofu dog food, they use their flatmate's toothbrush to clean their finger nails and wear genuine cheesecloth shirts.

Samantha Sheffield, a fine art student at the University of the West of England, is coming up for her degree show. "It's worth making an effort to say hello to people in Bristol. Everyone is very unsmart and unrich. In London most people don't know what a community centre is. Here the community centres have some of the best music and clubs," she says.

Venue the City's listing magazine, is down in Montpelier. "Bristolians have always been as into dance as Manchester. Only it's not in your face; the music is more subtle and there is a long tradition of reggae. This is the second oldest black community in Britain," says music editor John Mitchell. "People say we are introverted but Bristol is the centre of the West Country. Swindon, Portsmouth, Exeter, and the Forest of Dean all rely on us for their entertainment. We may not have night clubs that compare to London but we do like to party in the fields. All the biggest rave organisers come from Bristol."

The Moon Flowers are typical of psychedelic Bristol bands. They give the impression of being shambolic, acidy hippies, but in fact they are quietly making a small packet with their own label, Pop God records. Massive Attack, another Bristol band, has been more overtly successful, having won best album and single of the year in *The Face* magazine. Their music is an amalgam of contemporary hip-hop and vintage reggae, and their backgrounds a mixture of Spanish, Jamaican and Italian.

Soft-spoken rapper Robert (3-D) Del Naja was brought up in the city. "Bristol is so laid back that no one ever accosts us in clubs. Making a record here is less hectic but most bands in Bristol never quite get round to it," he says. "I just wish Bristolians made an effort to promote Bristol. The press here really lack enthusiasm. They think all we have is Brunel but there is no shortage of talent. Bath is like a doll's house. You are scared to break anything. In Bristol people let themselves go."

Bristol's enthusiasms tend to be a little different. Skate boards and graffiti are a part of the city. Throughout the day, children in baggy trousers traipse into Rollermania, a skateboard mecca. They come from all round Britain to skate at the new Lloyds Building and the old skate parks, and to read *Bugs and Drugs*, a Bristol magazine. "At the moment they are all into low-slung pants cut short at the ankle and huge work shirts. Bristolians are superb at the never-washed-my-hair look," says Lou Coffey, the shop's owner.

One person who is trying to get Bristol to let go a little more is Liz Lewitt, Bristol's most established designer. "Bristol fashion bewilders me. It's a weird mix of rave, rasta hats and crocheted tops with a dash of Barbour from the University." To cater for Bristol's more exotic tastes, Miss Lewitt runs a club called Spank once a month. "It's relaxed here, but rather small-minded and you can't be too obvious. It's more embarrassing being yourself in a small city," she says.

So how do the students fit into all this? Bristol University student union, Britain's most caressable carbuncle, may be the largest student complex in Europe but at 6pm it is probably also the most deserted. Leaflets announce the scouts and guides will be playing Trivial Pursuits in Badock while the Catholic chaplaincy will host a toga party and slave auction.

Bristol students are white, middle-class and usually more interested in the Old Etonian Subbuteo League than the next rave. Arriving in October with new cheque books and old aspirations they soon become acclimatised. The dull thud of rain sweeps into their collective consciousness and they slip into Bristol's special sodden rhythm. Only clean hair and new South American jumpers give them away.

Nicholas White, 26, is one of those students who never left Bristol. He now works at the BBC. "I prefer it here because there are no pretensions. It may not be the centre of the universe but it is more manageable and secure and it's surprisingly diverse. London always leaves me shattered," he says. "Here the restaurants never change, students can live in Georgian squares and there's loads of cinema and theatre."

At the moment everyone is wearing a slice of Bristol's grunge. The difference is that when the fashion cognoscenti have decided to look like they are winning again and fashion editors have repainted their nails and moved on to a glossier, shinier world, young Bristolians will still be burning those joss sticks.

Welcome to the dandy



RACHEL KELLY

I am delighted that Chanel is to sell men's Y-fronts in London, and to learn that there is a waiting list for the £80 white cotton and Lycra knickers with their double 'C' logo. It is a shame these are intended only for women — men I have spoken to fancy a pair themselves. After a dreary decade when the greatest fashion statement a man could make was wearing a pair of red braces, the dandy is back.

The 1990s dandy is happy to grow his hair long (spot the growing number of pony-tails); preen himself, shown in the growth in men's toiletries; read about fashion— witness the men's style magazines such as *GQ*; and buy outrageous ties: Tie Rack's best-selling lines are kipper ties in flamboyant colours.

These are small signs to be sure, and most men's wardrobes are still dominated by serried ranks of monochrome suits. Apart from a little spurt in the 1960s, when fashion burst into life with kipper ties and flares and flowery shirts, men's fashion has been austere for far too long. But designers should seize the moment. The 1980s has been a slow preparation for the return of the peacock, a process delayed only by the recession.

What fun it is when it's okay for men to dress up. And it adds to the list of Christmas presents that women can choose for their menfolk. It really is too boring to have only handkerchiefs, socks or Gucci ties to choose from.

A trip round the National Portrait Gallery reminds us of what men are missing out on: here is Sir Walter Raleigh, with a pearl in one ear and a cloak as valuable as his entire estates thrown down in front of Queen Elizabeth; there is Samuel Pepys, showing off his elaborate new wig.

Step through the 18th century and the materials remain fantastic, the colours luxuriant and the jewels dazzling, culminating in the Regency dandies: the Prince Regent with his buckskin trousers and well-turned calf.

By the mid-19th century, the black and white of Victorian austerity predominate. A sneering public-school suspicion of anything which smacked of vanity grew up and remains to this day. Long trousers, introduced in the French revolution, and jackets and ties became the norm, with school and club ties acting as semaphore for middle-class respectability.

Yet men's fashion could be so much more adventurous. Why shouldn't men wear skirts? I remember the plaintive cry of a cousin of mine, aged four: "Why can't I wear a skirt, Mummy?" His mother had no convincing reply. Women, after all, have hijacked huge areas of men's clothing — witness the Princess of Wales's dashing appearance in a dinner-jacket.

We have much to learn from the East. Maharajahs have no qualms about dressing as dramatically as their wives, and selecting from trousers, or skirts or breeches as their whim takes them. Western men should have similar freedom of choice.

A new Oscar Wilde is needed to lead us from the dreariness of most of men's fashions. Now is the time for more colourful characters like those in Gilbert and Sullivan. Why, they might even wear the new Chanel underpants.

A relaxed Princess of Wales may have put eating problems behind her

Sustained by a lighter heart

THE address to an international conference on eating disorders yesterday was the first formal acknowledgement by the Princess of Wales that she has been a victim of bulimia, although she stopped short of a full confession.

But she appeared to be describing her own exceptionally stressful life when she told delegates that anorexia and bulimia have at their core a far deeper problem than mere female vanity, and are more likely to spring from unhappinesses in childhood, and the self-doubts and uncertainties that accompany adolescence.

In 1960 the princess's mother gave birth to a son who lived only a few hours. Eighteen months later Diana was born, and it has been speculated that she spent her early years feeling a poor substitute for the male heir her parents wanted. When she was only six, her mother walked out and her parents went through a particularly acrimonious divorce.

At the time of her engagement in 1981, Lady Diana Spencer appeared a healthy, even plump, 19-year-old with a penchant for chocolate bars. She is said to have hated her official engagement photograph and, in common with many a bride-to-be, went on a severe slimming campaign.

According to Andrew Morton, whose book *Diana: Her True Story* appears the most reliable available chronicle of her side of the marriage, her problems began shortly afterwards. He reports: "She was frequently found raiding the refrigerator at Highgrove late in the evening, and once startled a footman by eating an entire steak and kidney pie when she was staying at Windsor Castle. Her friend Rory Scott remembers her eating a 1 lb bag of sweets in short order during a bridge evening, while her admission that she ate a bowl of custard before she went to bed added to the perplexity concerning her diet."



No full confession: the princess

When the royal family eat in public, they merely toy with their food; the Queen pushes morsels around her plate but little of it appears ever to reach her mouth. The reason is not illness but etiquette: stoking fuel is not seen to be a regal thing to to be doing. Not so the princess. An American society hostess recalls being "horrified", during one of the princess's trips to America, at her table manners. "She literally shovelled the food into her mouth with her fingers, then after licking them clean noisily announced, 'God I'm hungry'. We were all stunned."

SUCH behaviour is entirely symptomatic of bulimics, and the hostess, had she been more aware of her guest's condition, might have offered sympathy rather than dismay.

The strains on the princess during the last 12 years have been enormous. While living in a patently unhappy marriage she became the most photographed woman in the world, an icon of beauty and elegance. She performed wonders hiding any illness while on public view, although those who travelled with her regularly can recall incidents when she felt unwell during a public engagement and had to retire briefly, and on one occasion a full-blown faint.

The last year has seen the greatest strains of all, but now that the princess is separated she appears more at ease with herself, healthier, and much more likely to follow a normal eating routine. In the way she lavishes love and care on her children (though boys, admittedly, are less likely to suffer eating disorders) she appears determined not to visit on them the tribulations of her own life.

ALAN HAMILTON

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Alan Coren



■ Half time is as good as any to have a shot at my own obituary

On the day you die, what do you want people to say about you? Well, yes, of course, you want them to say, "My God, 108, what a great innings!", but what do you want them to say next? How do you wish to be remembered? For your achievements? For your character? Or for some daft individuating feature, be it never so tiny, which, whenever your name is posthumously mentioned, instantly rings a bell and throws up an image, much in the manner of an ancient cash-register?

The odds, I have to tell you, are on the latter; history will see to that. Clio is a mischievous little operator, and can never resist fixing it so that if, say, you burned cakes, fled up an oak tree, required Hardy to kiss you or Bognor to be buggered, such minutiae will popularly supersede anything else. Which is why my heart goes out, today, not only to the late Sir Ian Jacob, but to me.

Yesterday, *The Daily Telegraph* ran an obituary of Sir Ian, into whose 93 years so many enterprises of great pith and moment had been packed — intellectual powerhouse of Churchill's wartime cabinet, DG of the BBC, subsequent chairman, trustee, director, of almost everything else — that, as I read, I found myself wondering what immemorial clincher the obituarist would pick to leave us with in summing up so teeming a public life. It was this: "In India, he shot big game, narrowly failing to bag a tiger." I read this several times: I could not decode it. The obituarist had chosen not only to sign off a life of almost unprecedented achievement with the one thing unachieved, but also to offer us an image which I, for one, will henceforth find ineradicable. Whenever Sir Ian's name is uttered, I shall see only the bespectacled and balding figure in the *Telegraph* mugshot, ineptly emptying his Remington from the top of an elephant, while something striped lopes gratefully away.

Which, mind, is still only a fragment of the picture. What does his chronicler mean by "narrowly failing"? Is that a good thing, or a bad? I mean, was it a tricky shot, eg, a cheap gun, a nervous elephant, a titchy tiger, or did Sir Ian, perhaps, broadly succeed in bagging something else in error, a bearer, a nawaub, a, worst of all, cow? We may never know, but I think some of us may think of little else for some considerable time.

I shall, because, as I hinted, this comes very close to home. At 54, I have reached half my alloted span, and not unnaturally begun to wonder what a bereft world may one day make of me. Now, it so happens that in 1966, my wife and I were charged by the Ford Motor Company with taking their very first Transit on a proving run through the northern Sahara, and because there were just the two of us, and having read *Beau Geste*, I knew the desert to be an inimical spot. I persuaded Rochester Row to issue me with a firearms certificate and Cogswell & Harrison to sell me a Walther 9mm automatic, so that should a horde of armed Touaregs suddenly descend upon us, I should be able to spring from my vehicle, draw my pistol, and give it to them as a present.

They never materialised; two months later, as we drove through the outskirts of Cairo, the gun was still under my seat. At which point, a dog suddenly somersaulted above the car in front and rolled into the gutter; the driver did not stop, but we did, and got out, and the dog was in as bad shape as a dog can get, and my wife said, "Shoot it."

I don't know why it should be so hard to put a dog out of its misery, all I know is that it took a full clip, by which time most of suburban Cairo was on the street yelling, and since there was no way of proving we had acted not from malice but from pity (it was the tenth anniversary of Suez, and were anyone to take it into his head that the British were celebrating this with a revenge mission targeted on household pets, we should soon be in worse nick than the dog), we leapt smartly back aboard and drove to the nearest police station to explain, a matter involving several hundred forms and the British vice-consul.

They do not keep things to themselves, diplomats: when, a week later, we dropped into the Damascus embassy, our man said, "Oh yes, you're that silly arse who shot a dog in Egypt." Which is why I put it on the record now. It might stop someone else dragging it up in 54 years' time.

Patients should see the records of particular operations in particular hospitals, says **Dr Thomas Stuttaford**

Don't cover up for second-rate surgeons

A decade ago, when I saw an analysis of the quality of surgical care in England, one statistic stuck in my mind: that a heart bypass operation was ten times more risky if carried out in one of our famous northern teaching hospitals than if it was done in one of the London teaching hospitals. In those days the only teaching hospital that could boast figures comparable to the London ones was Southampton.

It is interesting that the University Hospital in Southampton has maintained its reputation, and that in the figures reported in *The Times* yesterday of the death-rate following general surgery (mainly abdominal operations) is less than a third of that which might be expected. Once a tradition of excellence has been created, it becomes self-perpetuating and younger doctors feel privileged to join it.

A reassuring statistic not in yesterday's report is that 99.3 per cent of all patients who go into hospital in England for surgery will leave alive. British surgery is as safe as any in the world, due in part to the close checks on the training and selection of surgeons by the Royal College of Surgeons, and in part to our high standards of anaesthesia.

Anaesthetists, junior doctors and theatre nursing staff are fully aware of which surgeons are most consistently successful, but it is difficult to define the qualities that make a good operator. Experience is important, particularly if it includes working with one of the masters of the craft in a famous unit, but however practised some surgeons become, it is all too often apparent to bystanders that their patients still fail to do well.

If a surgeon is bad because he is drunk, idle, absentee or pre-senile, it is comparatively easy to replace him; but it is difficult, if not impossible, to remove somebody who is conscientious but whose patients consistently do less well than expected. The surgeon may be quite unable to say why their own patients do badly while others do well. In a good, well-known hospital the damage done by a poor surgeon, who may be academically bright but for some reason a bad diagnostician, a clumsy operator or have a suspect judgment, can be minimised by his team. Many a consultant surgeon who is a sub-standard clinician has been so well supported by a skilful and tactful senior registrar that patients have not suffered. However, a bad surgeon operating in a third-rate hospital will not have the benefit of a select supporting staff, and then patients may suffer.

In judging a surgeon it is impossible to rely on statistics alone. They can be misleading, for it is difficult to be certain that the cases surgeons see are comparable. In the past this mattered less; one of the hallmarks of the good GP was that he was able to select the best surgeon for his patient, even though this process may have meant that some surgeons had full lists while others were comparatively under-employed and spent a lifetime dealing with surgical trivia.

In the new, financially orientated, National Health Service, money as well as the patient's good is becoming an important factor. A contract between a practice and a hospital is just that; local doctors no longer have the same freedom to pick and choose the surgeons for their patients, for they are limited to those working within hospitals with which they have a contract. In private practice there is still total freedom of choice.

Not only do surgeons vary in their overall quality, but even the experts are more expert in some operations than others. For instance, one genito-urinary surgeon may have made the bladder and urethra his area of expertise, whereas another may be more interested in the prostate. The changes in the health service mean that soon it will only be when a GP is advising his private patients (or those honorary private patients, his own family, who often enjoy many of the privileges of private patients) that he will be able to select the best surgeon for the job on clinical rather than financial grounds.

The secretary of state, in her emphasis on the citizen's charter and the frills of medical care, may be doing medicine a disservice. Everybody hopes to see politeness and punctuality, but these worthy virtues become insignificant when compared to the difference between living and dying. It would be ludicrous, if it weren't dangerous, to publish a league table based on medical practice which nevertheless omitted what the patient really needs to know: how likely he or she is to leave hospital alive.

Wide discrepancies in the death rate from comparable operations on patients from similar social backgrounds have always been disturbing — and always obvious to local doctors. But, amazingly, although some individual specialities keep records, there are no national statistics of the how the death rate for particular operations varies from unit to unit, only the all-embracing figures published yesterday. Yet we know, for instance, that the death rate from gall-bladder disease or appendicitis, differs from hospital to hospital.

The quality of surgery does vary. The idea that one hip replacement or bypass, for instance, is much like another is a dangerous one. For it is just possible that a certain surgeon at a particular hospital has spare capacity because the local GPs know that the hospital is second-rate and its surgery poor.

Another triumph for outrage

The publicity accorded to Saturday's bomb was overwhelming, and helpful only to those who seek to reap the harvest of terror

A wise general always asks, what does the enemy want me to do next — and tries to do the opposite. So how did the IRA want Britain to react to last weekend's Bishopsgate bomb? The answer, I fear, is to do exactly what we did.

After last month's Warrington debacle, the IRA did not particularly want to kill. It wanted to cause damage and garner publicity for its renewed effectiveness. It wanted not just to terrorise people but, as with last year's Leadenhall bomb, to terrorise business. The bomb was a massive economic sanction, intended to goad politicians and police into frightening and embattling London as they have embattled Belfast.

The effectiveness of terrorism lies not in the act but in the reaction. Conrad's secret agent, "frail, insignificant, shabby, a pest in a street full of men", understood this well. He could sow violence, but he needed publicity and the public to reap the harvest of terror. If people shrugged and turned away, there was no terror and no effect.

Not even the world's most bomb-proofed city of Belfast, can prevent such explosions. (Two large car bombs breached Belfast's iron cordon last year, barely noted outside the city.) Good intelligence and policing can catch some bombers; but the more one cell is thwarted, the more determined another will be to succeed. Mowing does not rid a lawn of weeds. What Londoners could do, but what their leaders cannot seem to permit, is deny the terrorist his harvest of reaction.

The publicity accorded to Saturday's bomb was overwhelming. For not one but three days, it all but swept Russia, Britain's economic recovery, even Bosnia off the front pages. The metropolitan media conformed to its old rule-of-thumb, that a London atrocity is worth five Manchester atrocities, ten Belfast ones, 20 in Europe and 100 in China. It was not just the prolonged publicity and clichéd condemnations that must have delighted the IRA, it was the content of the reaction. The BBC sternly told an official that "you can take two of these bombs but you cannot take three". I heard an ITN reporter trilling that "life in the City cannot be the same again".

Newspapers telephoned financiers around the world to ask "aren't you frightened of London?" The *Financial Times* induced Sir William Purves, the head of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, to warn that "the IRA's weekend bomb could undermine London's chances of being chosen as the home for the future European central bank". London's chance is anyway close to zero. Why give such gratuitous credit to an IRA bomb?

The vultures were close behind. Not a newscast was without a security consultant advertising his wares: video cameras, laminated glass, executive bodyguards, security gates, car exclusion zones, police checkpoints. Companies howled for government compensation. St Bartholemew's Hospital howled to be kept open for next time. "Is it not just a matter of money?" some fool asked the City police chief, Owen Kelly. More than money, replied that shrewd policeman. "In this open, free society" — he almost spat the words — "anybody could drive a bomb into any part of the City." Any stick will do to beat a dog. The police, said Mr Kelly, needed extra powers to set up stop-and-search checkpoints at will. The time had come for an overhaul of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act.

Special Branch began to leak against MI5. The Metropolitan police leaked against the City police. By yesterday the press had them all at each other's throats — an unlooked for bonus for the IRA. Professor Paul Wilkinson of Aberdeen called for police supervision of boarding houses and hotels. The beguiling equation was proffered, that the hundreds of millions the explosion cost the City might have been better spent on security. If money could stop the IRA, it would have vanished long ago.

As in Bosnia, the cry goes up that something must be done. Like what? London bombs are about publicity, they are a promotional venture to further the IRA's campaign against any Northern Ireland settlement uncongenial to itself, which means any feasible one. Do we censor publicity? The censor is a bad weapon of war, even counter-terrorist war. But the most effective counter to a London bomb is self-restraint, to report it like a Belfast bomb, then ignore it. Some hope!

On any available measure, London is one of Europe's safest cities in which to work. Few executives feel the need of private bodyguards or work in windowless offices. The kidnapping or murder of businessmen is unknown. No suburban estates are fortified with the guards, dogs and fences seen in the wealthy suburbs of New York, Madrid and Rome. The IRA has been granted few such concessions, the gates to Downing Street (promptly vaulted by a rocket) being one.

To do what both the IRA and the security industry now want and make London more like Belfast would be a catastrophe. It would make the British "think security every day", which means think afraid. It would be a triumph for terror. The resulting exasperation might lead to the return of internment, which caused the surge in IRA recruitment in the 1970s. President Clinton would be encouraged to send a "peace envoy", who would doubtless honour Sinn Fein with a meeting. This is what the Bishopsgate bomb was really about, not about smashing capitalism.

Ever since the British government lost the will to impose power-sharing on Belfast's politicians almost 20 years ago, it conceded the IRA a *de facto* veto on a settlement. What is termed "the permanent stalemate scenario" is holding. This accepts the present low-level conflict as preferable to any alternative. The degeneration of Northern Irish politics, the paramilitary gang wars, the continued stigma on Britain's image as a civilised community are all a small price to pay for not having to worry about Ulster.

Every time I go to Belfast, I receive the customary briefing that "we are winning the war against terrorism". There follows a list of arrests, arms seizures and convictions. But the war is not being won. It is merely not being lost. It has been stabilised. Each time I go, the security industry has sold the government a more extravagant piece of armour to counter the faults in the last piece — like the troubled border crossing pillboxes. Each time, a new British minister jokes about his "learning curve" and settles into the shoes of a direct rule that nobody now calls temporary. Indeed direct rule is increasingly identified with British sovereignty. Its ending by means of some form of devolution might thus imply a "British withdrawal" and so is unthinkable as long as violence continues.

Margaret Thatcher played safe. She had no policy for Northern Ireland. From the moment of Airey Neave's murder, she would hear nothing of the place. So long as the cost was containable, it could stew in its own juice. John Major came to office determined to force the pace and instructed the present secretary of state, Sir Patrick Mayhew, accordingly. Sir Patrick tugged at the sword in the stone, but it would not budge. He let others dictate his timing, and in Ireland that leads straight to the bog.

Everybody has an interest in the stalemate. The IRA does not want devolution or power-sharing. These would give more patronage to the hated SDLP, and possibly unleash the untender mercies of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, in cahoots with the Irish police. So violence directs the agenda. There is always an outrage to secure a delay. British ministers know that violence in Ireland is a random variable: is tribal rather than political, and not susceptible to negotiation. Were Gerry Adams won over, somebody else would "go unofficial". But it suits ministers to say "no settlement without an end to violence".

A brave reformist in Northern Ireland would disregard the bombs and murders, leave them to the police and intelligence services, remove them from the equation. He would try to end the security syndrome, propagate normality, starve the paramilitaries of money, proceed as near as possible as if they did not exist. But the proconsuls of Stormont are there to hold a line. The Treasury will give the money. They can denounce atrocities. They can cheer on peace movements. But they must not damage the stalemate. And meanwhile the IRA will go on bombing London for as long as we show it hurts us.

I suppose some future generation will force political change down the throats of the Irish. Ours is simply standing guard over the mess. But to spend millions fortifying London against that mess is worse than a waste of money. It is a victory for terror.

STUART NICOL



Armed standoff in Ulster: is anyone really working to change the status quo?

Simon Jenkins

Out of puff

A SMOKE-FREE zone has been declared at the Kinnock household in west London, where the former Labour leader spends much of his time gardening, between television and radio appearances. Neil Kinnock has finally snuffed out the hot air he has been puffing for a considerable number of years: he has given up smoking the pipe, apparently at the insistence of his wife.

Glenys Kinnock, herself a former smoker, declared her domestic victory this week when she helped launch the Children's Charter for Freedom Against Tobacco. Her husband, who has reduced his alcohol intake considerably since resigning as Labour leader, has not put pipe to lip for a full four weeks. Kinnock was always careful not to smoke in front of the cameras when he was leader, but he enjoyed pulling out his tobacco pouch when relaxing. Friends say he is putting a brave face on the new pipeless regime.

"He used to light up in a reflective moment," said Adam Ingram, who was Kinnock's parliamentary private secretary. "He wasn't a heavy smoker, though he would puff away quite happily. I am glad that he has packed in."

But in serious pipe-smoking circles, his company will be missed. "I am just sad that, for whatever reason, the former Leader of the Opposition has quit," said Mike Butler, Secretary of the Pipe Smokers' Council.

Fred Trueman, the former England cricketer and an inveterate pipe-smoker, is surprised that anyone should wish to stop. "I have been smoking my pipe for 46 years and have no intention of stopping."

But does Mrs Trueman object? "She has never said so. Although I am not surprised Neil Kinnock has given up. Look at Mrs Kinnock."

● *The latest attempt by the Liberal Democrats to savage education secretary John Patten commands slightly less authority than, perhaps, it might.*

The party's education spokesman, Don Foster, who thoroughly relished the humiliation Patten suffered after he mis-spelt "sincerely" in a letter to a headmaster, has just sent out a press release with the headline: "Can Patten Reach Even the Lowest Level?" Within the space of 150 words, Foster manages three basic spelling errors.

Pattently obvious mistakes



DIARY

Next goal?

ALTHOUGH his links with football may now be severed, Brian Clough is being touted as a future politician in some circles. Yesterday, 18 Labour MPs tabled a motion in the House of Commons acknowledging Clough's contribution to football. Now, he is being wooed by Labour to stand for a post in local government.

Clough is a commited socialist who has regularly given hard-pressed miners free or cheap tickets to football games, and in the early 1970s he nearly stood as Labour parliamentary candidate for the safe Tory seat of Richmond in York.

Nottingham Labour party says it would very much welcome Clough's return to political form. Ron Stevenson, city organiser for the Labour party, says: "He would have a lot of support if he decided to throw his hat into the ring. I think it is fair to say that he would have a head start."

But Derby is equally keen, according to Neil Emmott, the local agent: "If Brian Clough wished to stand he would have a lot of enthusiastic support and would be an asset to the Labour party." Clough may be gutted to be leaving the game of two halves, but he once professed an ambition to be prime minister. He is an unpredictable fellow and a political resurrection cannot be discounted. Remember — it's a funny old game, politics.

● *The City of London is not the only area of the capital where police security needs some improvement. Neil Derbyshire, the crime reporter on* The Daily Telegraph, *went to New Scotland Yard for a briefing about the bomb on Monday. While he was there, someone stole his raincoat.*

Try Canary Wharf

WITH the inestimable benefit of hindsight, the choice of prize could not have been more unfortunate. Lot 129 in an auction to raise money for Southwell Cathedral in Nottinghamshire is "a visit for two to the NatWest Tower in the City of London", followed by a tour of the House of Commons.

While the Commons tour is still very much on the cards, there is obviously considerable doubt about the visit to the tower, which was devastated by the weekend's IRA bomb and will take many months to repair.

The National Westminster Bank, however, is gritting its teeth in the face of adversity, and is looking for an alternative arrangement. "We will do everything we can to fulfil our side of the bargain," says a spokesman.

Just the ticket

IT IS reassuring to discover that traffic wardens kept their cool on Saturday despite the mayhem caused in the City by the IRA's bomb.

Unable to find a parking place for a mid-morning wedding, Canon John Oates, the rector of St Bride's church in Fleet Street, parked in a side street not far from the scene of the blast.

When he returned he discovered a parking ticket timed for 12.27, two hours after the bomb. But far from venting any unchristian anger, Oates was in a forgiving mood and even saw the funny side of it. "Some things never change. It was a heartwarming sign that the parking police had their priorities right," he said.

Bouquets for Betty



The heady scent of celebration was in the air at the Commons yesterday, as fragrant bouquets flooded Betty Boothroyd's office to mark her first anniversary as Speaker. The party began the night before when teh Speaker (right) was guest of honour at an exhibition to mark the 75th anniversary of the suffragette movement.

Appropriately, the event had been organised by the 300 Group, which is still fighting for the day when there will be 300 women MPs in the Commons. Madam Speaker had only encouragement for the girls at the event — although, with a mere 59 women MPs, the group is still far short of its target. "If suffragettes were in the gallery of the Commons, they would say: 'Well girls you haven't done too badly, but you've still a long way to go'." The Speaker said that it had been a great year. "I have enjoyed every minute of it. Don't I look as if I have?" The consensus was: unquestionably.

مكتبة من الاصل

RIL 28 1993

ON THE RECORD

The Maastricht story adds another disgraceful chapter

Politicians as seasoned as Douglas Hurd are not expected to contradict themselves in public. With his comments on the potential consequences of a second Danish rejection of the Maastricht treaty in next month's referendum, the foreign secretary has not only broken that rule, but has done so in Denmark itself, in the middle of its referendum campaign, and on an issue — British policy were the Danes to reject Maastricht — on which both he and the prime minister have given what amount to pledges of honour.

Mr Hurd said that a "no" vote on May 18 would precipitate "a crisis involving Denmark's position in the Community", a statement throwing doubt on British support for its continued membership. He conceded that the Maastricht treaty "as such could not proceed"; but he twice refused to confirm that Britain would decline to sign a son-of-Maastricht treaty, without Denmark.

That, said Mr Hurd airily, would "obviously be unreal". Yet only last December, he said that negotiating such a treaty was "not a political reality". The reality to emerge from Middelfart on Sunday was that Mr Hurd's respect for his own unequivocal pledges has taken second place to his desire to weaken the "no" campaign in Denmark. A central plank of that campaign has been that the Danish government's fears of isolation are exaggerated, since the British government has repeatedly said that it would stand by the Danish decision, yea or nay.

Last June, in the troubled wake of the first Danish referendum on Maastricht, John Major and Douglas Hurd stood out firmly against bullying or coercing the Danes into accepting a treaty about which they had reservations. On June 8, in honourable contrast to the threats emanating from Bonn and Paris, about going ahead without Denmark and forcing it to sign or quit the European Community, Mr Hurd eloquently defended in Parliament the rights of small countries in "a Community of democracies". In the Europe of the future, he said later that month, "Denmark can neither be coerced nor excluded". Both men have since buttressed that commitment with two specific undertakings: that Britain would not "countenance" any attempt to ease Denmark out of the EC, and that in the event of a second "no" vote, it would not accept a treaty between the other 11 without Denmark.

That, Mr Major said on September 24, "cannot happen and it will not happen". In the paving debate in the House of Commons last November, Mr Major won his tiny majority by saying that Britain would wait for the second Danish referendum before ratifying Maastricht.

These undertakings applied not only to the Maastricht treaty, but to any "son of Maastricht". Mr Hurd made this plain to BBC television's *On the Record* on December 13, at the close of the Edinburgh summit. Again in response to German and French warnings, he said that if Denmark voted no, other EC states might "go into a corner and negotiate a new treaty of a smaller number", but plans for "a new treaty of wherever-it-might-be without Denmark" would "not include us".

Yesterday in Stockholm, Mr Hurd urbanely insisted that he had merely "declined to rule out or rule in any later developments" should the Danes, unexpectedly, vote no. He had gone no further than "a statement of fact". The point he ignored was that Britain had ruled out certain developments, and no longer apparently does. Facts, said the philosopher Strawson, are the shadows that statements cast on things. Mr Hurd has thrown a shadow over the Danish referendum which he shows no sign of regretting. He has also thrown a shadow over his and John Major's most consistent defence of their determination to ratify Maastricht, which is that Britain's word is its bond. Such cynical arm-twisting, such promises forgot, have become second nature to the government in the debates over Maastricht. As a form of intervention in another nation's referendum, they are little short of a disgrace.

RIGHT TO KNOW

Hospital league tables will benefit patients and doctors

Like the bond between confessor and penitent, the relationship between doctor and patient is a sacred one. This is one reason why the prospective publication of hospital league tables is unsettling many doctors, nurses and health service managers, who fear that the drive for openness and accountability in the public sector will breach the Hippocratic seal and make medical practice impossible. Even more than teachers, doctors feel that comparative scrutiny will encourage scapegoating. In the interests of a better health service, it is important that their fears are assuaged.

The purpose of the new performance indicators should not be to single out individual doctors for chastisement or reward, but to identify the kinds of procedure and management structures that improve health care. The way a hospital runs its accounts, patient records or reception desk may be as important as the kind of consultants it attracts. Yesterday *The Times* published a selection of these statistics — some of which will not be generally published when the league tables are launched next year. They should be the basis of an honest debate on the form which public sector information ought to take in future.

At present, the nation's 2,500 hospitals publish little more than waiting lists and numbers of patient treatments. From 1994, patients, fundholders and policy-makers will have access to details of average waiting times for routine surgery, out-patient and emergency services, ambulance response times and the proportions of operations which are cancelled. Clinical indicators including re-admission rates will be added the following year. Eventually, computerisation will create a detailed map of the nation's healthcare.

Behind the tattered curtain of this government's economic and European policies, a genuine revolution in public sector practice is being attempted, much of it under the much-derided banner of the citizen's charter. Crime and police statistics are to be sharply improved. Last year's school examination league tables infuriated the education establishment but offered parents more information about the nation's schools than ever before. They will soon be a routine part of the educational calendar, provided the law is amended to ensure that teachers cannot wreck them.

Hospital league tables, likewise, are the necessary complement to the internal market in health which separates service providers from purchasers and aspires to give patients the rights of the consumer. A flow of accurate information about hospitals should help individuals make sensible decisions in the marketplace; it should also enable health managers to identify and duplicate good practice. The embarrassing of poor performers will not be enough; the aim must be to raise standards generally.

Because the veil of secrecy is rarely lifted at a stroke, the first round of statistics will be imperfect and incomplete. Hospitals are already complaining of inaccuracies which should give district auditors responsible for data collection cause for concern. Measuring response times in casualty departments accurately (and honestly) will be far more difficult than reporting numbers of deaths.

Individual figures, furthermore, will always tell an incomplete story. High death rates in a particular area, for instance, may reflect a series of horrific motorway accidents or the absence of hospice facilities as much as poor medical practice. But the way to correct such deficiencies is to publish more information rather than less. The number of indicators must increase, as must the sophistication of presentation. Politicians, officials and media must play their part in providing the explanatory footnotes to the bare statistics. Like the hospitals themselves, the league tables that measure them must remain under healthy scrutiny.

FAREWELL TO GREYFRIARS

More choice and less exile are good for most schoolchildren

The peculiar English institution of boarding school continues its gradual decline. In its annual report yesterday, the Independent Schools Information Service confirmed that the trend away from boarding, apparent for the past decade, continues and accelerates.

In spite of recent hard times for fee-paying parents, the number of pupils at independent schools has gone down only slightly in the past year. There are more children being privately educated today than during the depths of the 1983 recession. Day pupils, who make up four-fifths of children in independent schools, fell in numbers by only 0.2 per cent last year. Parents have made substantial sacrifices to pay for private education for their children. In London one child in six is now sent, by hook or by crook, to an independent secondary school, to escape from the supposed and sometimes real horrors of the state system.

But the number of boys boarding full-time fell more steeply last year than before, by 6.7 per cent, and the number of girls boarding by 5.4 per cent. Although boarding has become as necessary for the sons and daughters of the new age of broken and one-parent families as it was for the children of expatriate servants of the Empire a century ago, the notion that it is natural to send a child away, from an early age, to the care and education of strangers (which visitors to England have found strange since the Middle Ages) is fading.

The fall was particularly steep for the lower ages. Preparatory schools have made great efforts to soften their famous rigours and lose their whiff of recycled cold cabbage and Dotheboys Hall. But British parents are no longer so hide-bound about sending little Alexander and Amanda away at the age of seven to start their cursus honorum towards middle-class respectability.

They may be partly influenced by cost. Fees can now add up to £200,000 for a child from the ages of seven to 18. Modern parents have also become more tender with their young and less certain of the eternal verities of cold baths. Christianity and cricket instilled by Dr Arnold, Miss Beale and Miss Buss. What they want now is not an old school tie, but guarantee of a university place — which not even the best schools can deliver as reliably as required.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

City safety after the IRA bomb

From Mr N. M. Peraticos

Sir, The weekend's horrific bombing of the City of London by the IRA has further undermined the capital's position as a leading world financial centre. While I am certain that the government will take every possible step to avoid a recurrence, the very nature of the City, which is a sprawling financial, residential, commercial and retail district, located at the centre of the capital, renders it vulnerable and almost impossible to protect against determined terrorists.

Enter the Docklands. Having worked here since 1986, and suffered the derision of City and West End colleagues for having chosen such an "inaccessible" place to work, I can report that I and (I am confident) my 24 colleagues feel very safe. Nothing goes into and out of Canary Wharf or the other adjacent quays, such as this one, without the scrutiny of a vigilant security operation.

Security is an intrinsic part of the design of Docklands. Closed-circuit video cameras network the area, wide open spaces expose and preclude suspicious activity. Indeed, as a result of lessons learnt, dustbins have been removed, and Canary Wharf is kept clean by a team of mobile refuse collectors.

Irrefutable proof that the system works was offered when a van packed with explosives outside Canary Wharf after midnight was spotted immediately, thereby avoiding loss of life and destruction (report, November 16, 1992).

There are many secure buildings in the City. However, the lesson must be that this is not enough. The whole area must be secure — Docklands is such a place. The inconvenience of travelling an extra 15 minutes on a temporarily undeveloped road system is a small price to pay for stability, safety and peace of mind — the prerequisites for a world financial centre.

Yours faithfully,
N. M. PERATICOS
(Director),
Pegasus Ocean Services Ltd,
2 Heron Quay, E14.
April 26.

From Mr David Lewis

Sir, I write this letter leaning on the window ledge of my former office in Bishops House, opposite the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank building in Bishopsgate. There are no walls, no doors, no ceilings, and no glass in the windows.

I have lost 24 years of accumulated papers, precedents and knowhow, although some of them should be recoverable from other sources eventually and our computers and database are operative.

Before I start feeling too sorry for myself, however, I remind myself that 50 years ago my father and uncle were guests of the Japanese in Changi jail and their sole asset in the world was one loincloth; my other uncle was in an even worse state on the Burma-Siam railway. Before internment they had all been fighting for freedom and the rule of law.

Fifty years on, the rule of law and our basic freedoms remain paramount. Despite having been bombed twice in 12 months, my firm will survive and prosper. Next year is our 200th anniversary.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID LEWIS,
Norton Rose (solicitors),
Bishops House, Bishopsgate, EC2.
April 27.

From Mr P. H. Boardman

Sir, It is clear that we must now radically rethink our whole approach to combating terrorism in central London. Since bombs on the scale of last Saturday's can only be delivered by car or lorry, we now have every incentive to provide pedestrian routes throughout the City and the West End.

The minimum would be to link all the major railway stations and parks. This would give people greater confidence and security when moving about the City and also facilitate access for emergency services.

Yours faithfully,
P. H. BOARDMAN,
161 Arlington Road, NW1.
April 24.

Conflict and dialogue in Bosnia

From Professor Adrian Hastings

Sir, Miro Lasavic, the president of the Bosnian parliament, is expected in London this week, if he can get out of Sarajevo. For many people it may come as a surprise that Mr Lasavic is a Bosnian Serb. He is, of course, only one of many Serbs who have refused to support Radovan Karadzic throughout the war and preferred to endure a year of bombardment in the cellars of Sarajevo. Among them are Miodrag Simovic, the deputy prime minister, Branko Nikolic, the minister of justice, Nikola Kovac, the minister of education, and Branko Bilic, the minister of finance.

The Croats in the government are as numerous, including Mile Akmadzic, the prime minister, and Bozo Raic, the minister of defence.

The presence of all these people in the Bosnian government gives the lie most effectively to the underlying concept which Western governments and media continue to work from in their efforts to understand and respond to the Bosnian crisis. With such a pluralist government it cannot conceivably be a "tribal" conflict.

As such it is not a war between three population groups within Bosnia. It is, on the contrary, a conflict between the core of the state and its legitimate government upon the one hand and nationalist factions, armed from outside the country, within each of the two minority groups upon the other.

Over half the total population of Bosnia are now refugees. Karadzic and Boban have won ever more territory simply because their forces are heavily armed from Serbia and Croatia while the forces of the legitimate government remain almost unarmed on account of the world's arms embargo.

Reminding themselves of Mr Lasavic, could the media in future at least cease speaking about arming or not arming "the Bosnian Muslims" and speak instead about whether to arm the forces of a legitimate government endeavouring to defend the integriy of its country against groups not incomparable to the IRA? Even a change in phraseology would constitute an advance in understanding.

Yours,
ADRIAN HASTINGS,
The University of Leeds,
Leeds, West Yorkshire LS2 9JT.
April 25.

From Sir Michael Marshall, MP for Arundel (Conservative)

Sir, The implication in Matthew Parris's report, "Easy scoring on a hopeless wicket" (April 20), on the suggestion which I put to the foreign secretary regarding the urgent despatch of a parliamentary delegation to the former Yugoslavia, is misleading.

The suggestion was not simply a British initiative but in response to the formal declaration made on April 17 at the end of the Inter-Parliamentary Union's 89th conference, in New Delhi, by almost 500 parliamentarians from 106 countries for the involvement of a broad-based international mission.

It is precisely because the former Yugoslavia is still a member of the IPU and no longer has access to the General Assembly of the United Nations that an opportunity of face-to-face dialogue exists through parliamentary diplomacy. An IPU mission would bring together a wide-ranging representation from all parts of the world of parliamentarians concerned with human rights.

Yours etc,
MICHAEL MARSHALL (President, Inter-Parliamentary Council),
House of Commons.
April 25.

Levin on the Muslims

From Mr H. St J. B. Armitage

Sir, For Bernard Levin to suggest (April 27) that Ghazi Algosaibi, the Saudi Arabian ambassador in London, is "a man of such manifestly low quality" is as ridiculous as it is insulting rubbish. His description of the ambassador's letter to *The Times* as "impudent and offensive" aptly applies to his attack on that diplomat and the tone of much of his article.

Mr Levin obviously resents the ambassador's suggestion that anybody's conscience should be troubled by the plight of the Palestinians, preferring to point to other examples of man's inhumanity to man.

Mr Levin parades his views on the tyrannies he perceives by going into print. Drawing on his words, "I would esteem it a boon" — as would many of your readers — if you would deny him your columns, at least until he raises his argument above personal diatribe, direct and implied, against envoys whom he admits to despising.

Yours faithfully,
H. St J. B. ARMITAGE,
The Old Vicarage, East Horrington,
Wells, Somerset.
April 27.

From Mr Michael Hemery

Sir, Levin's vitriolic article reveals surprising ignorance of Ghazi Algosaibi, a member of one of the most distinguished families in Arabia, which has played a significant role in support of Ibn Saud, the father of the present king, as well as relationships between the Saudis and this country from the 1920s onwards.

Ghazi Algosaibi (whom Levin describes as a "lout") is a lawyer, poet and philosopher who has performed significant services for his country. He has openly spoken out in his own country against corruption (a practice not unknown in the West).

In the ministerial posts he held in Saudi Arabia, Algosaibi's pursuit of excellence was not necessarily acceptable to certain political factions and led to him losing office. The fact that he was, nevertheless, subsequently appointed as ambassador to the Court of St James is proof of the high esteem in which he is held, not only by his own government but also by those in our government who welcomed his nomination.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL HEMERY,
Henmead Hall, Staplefield Road,
Cuckfield, West Sussex.

Opera finances

From Mr John McMurray

Sir, Rodney Milnes, in his review of City of Birmingham Touring Opera's new production of *Les Boréades* (April 23), has slightly misinterpreted one point with regard to the company's finances. The loss of four planned performances in Britain (and indeed a further two on the Continent) was caused in each case by local funding difficulties affecting local promoters directly.

CBTO has been able to achieve so much in its six-year history in large part because of the deeply committed support given by both Birmingham City Council and Arts Council Touring. That support has been continuous and there is no reason to believe that either body intends to depart from it.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN McMURRAY
(Administrator),
City of Birmingham Touring Opera,
205 The Argent Centre,
60 Frederick Street, Birmingham 1.
April 23.

Overworked GPs

From Dr Andrew Orr and others

Sir, James Le Fanu (article, Body and Mind, April 20) has drawn attention to the fact that GPs are "unhappy with their lot". Ours is a fairly typical semi-rural market town four-doctor practice. This year each partner can expect to be disturbed at night, between 10pm and 8am, on around 145 occasions.

These comprise 80 visits to patients, 50 items dealt with by telephone, and a further 15 visits to our local cottage hospital, where we cover geriatric and casualty services. During the other hours on call when the surgery is closed, there will be around 250 home visits and 200 telephone consultations for each of us.

These rates have more than doubled in the last decade, with the greatest increases since the onset of the government's health reforms which have raised the expectations of our patients.

In a practice such as ours, where we have no recourse to deputising services for out-of-hours cover, each partner works in the surgery and is on call for well over 80 hours a week. We look with envy at our younger hospital colleagues who have now achieved, in theory at least, a working week below this level.

With the additional tasks involved in implementing the health reforms, GPs are tired.

They worry about the efficacy and safety of the medical care they can provide, given these circumstances. They are asking government for help in alleviating this situation.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW ORR,
ALAN BEGG,
MARGARET COWAN,
JOHN M. GRIFFITH,
Townhead Surgery,
Murray Lane,
Montrose, Tayside.
April 22.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

News from elsewhere

From Mr James Lewis

Sir, Walter Ellis ("The truth north of Watford", Media, April 21), was, in my view, not far short of the mark in his negative remarks about Liverpool in the wake of the Jamie Bulger tragedy. But the disappearance of regional editorial offices and, consequently, of regional editorial judgment, has been more damaging to balanced national news coverage than Walter Ellis seems to realise. London news desks often seem to treat the regions rather as Britain used to treat the colonies, ignoring them unless they make trouble.

For most of the time, London-based "firemen" do remarkably well, given the difficulties and time constraints of the job. But they should not be surprised at the touchiness of regional readers, like the normally tough and good-humoured Scousers, who feel that only their "bad" news now excites the interest of what used to be Fleet Street.

Yours etc,
JAMES LEWIS,
Broad Court, Beechfield Road,
Alderley Edge, Cheshire.

Home economics

From Mrs Janet Cockerill

Sir, Home economics skills (letters, April 16, 26) were first devalued in the 1970s when they were identified as being preparation for monotonous, unrewarding and unpaid labour carried out by an exclusively female group known as housewives.

To overcome this view, home economists extended their brief to include child care, aspects of design and technology, and other areas that marginalised the main purpose of the subject — to equip boys and girls for adult life with knowledge of nutrition and cooking, consumer skills and practical problem-solving. Now, evidence of young people in debt, homelessness and the emergence of malnutrition and poverty suggest that this education is needed urgently.

Yours faithfully,
JANET COCKERILL,
Diggles Lodge, Dixon Fold,
Bamford, Rochdale, Lancashire.

'Old-school' hacks in the new Russia

From Lord Bethell, MEP for London North West (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, The Russian people have shown by their votes in yesterday's referendum (report, April 26) that they have little confidence in the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, the so-called "Russian parliament".

This is hardly surprising. The present assembly was "elected" under Soviet conditions, which were little better than those that prevailed when the Communist party held a monopoly of power.

It is true that a small number of true democrats were allowed to squeeze in. This has obscured, in many Westerners' eyes, the simple fact that 70 per cent of the members of this "parliament" are communist hacks of the old school. Western television gives air time to those deputies who speak good English, thereby favouring those with Communist party or KGB backgrounds.

British public money has been spent on inviting members of this "parliament" to Britain for meetings and seminars. They have been treated with the respect due to representatives of the Russian people, whereas the basis of their election was quite improper.

I believe that the British Parliament should immediately break off all links with Mr Ruslan Khasbulatov, the Speaker, and his assembly of dubious characters, resuming these links only when a Russian parliament is elected on a truly democractic basis.

Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS BETHELL,
73 Sussex Square, W2.
April 26.

Investing in Eritrea

From Mr Louis FitzGibbon

Sir, Apart from raising the time-worn spectre of "Pandora's box" in Africa, your report on Eritrea (April 23) states that diplomats in Addis Ababa are inundated with enquiries about investment possibilities in Eritrea.

It is humiliating to realise that in reply the Eritreans would have every right to ask: "Where *were* you?"

We may have forgotten the scant reports of atrocities perpetrated by the Mengistu regime, but the blinded and the amputees will remember how we did nothing to help the heroic struggle of the Eritreans against a well oiled war machine constantly refreshed by Ethiopian money freed because of gifts by the EC for development under the Lomé agreements.

Despite hard proof, it was the fashion of our government to say that reports of what amounted to genocide were unverifiable and thus slither away from any condemnation other than the faintest murmur at lengthy intervals.

As the napalm and cluster bombs rained down, we looked the other way. Now that there may be financial gain to be had, it seems we are queuing up. It is not a pretty sight.

Yours faithfully,
LOUIS FitzGIBBON,
8 Portland Place,
Brighton, East Sussex.
April 23.

Teaching classics

From Mr Derek Enright, MP for Hemsworth (Labour)

Sir, Two cheers for your leader on the value of the classics ("Classic grounds", April 12). The way in which Latin, in particular, has been squeezed out of the curriculum in state schools damages the complete education not only of the most able pupils but also of those whose grasp of English basics so worries the secretary of state.

Even a basic course in Latin has been shown in the United States to benefit pupils in deprived areas to cope with better English grammar and a more diverse vocabulary, as well as providing tools for better modern language learning. The current naive imposition from above of identikit syllabuses and tests is precisely what militates against effective cohesion of subjects in the schools.

Your leader of the same date, on how to reform education tests, fails to encapsulate this. I reserve my third cheer for the day when you write one that does.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK ENRIGHT,
House of Commons.
April 12.

God-like proportions

From the Chaplain of Christ's College, Cambridge

Sir, You carried an attractive colour photograph (April 22) of David Williams-Ellis's "life-size bronze statues of Greek deities".

Could you also publish details of his research into the anatomical dimensions of the gods? The immortals' ability to metamorphose must surely make their exact measurements difficult to establish.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL LLOYD,
Chaplain,
Christ's College, Cambridge.
April 23.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 27: The President of the Portuguese Republic and Senhora Soares arrived in London today on a State Visit to The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent welcomed The President of the Portuguese Republic and Senhora Soares on behalf of The Queen at Gatwick Airport, London.

The President of the Portuguese Republic and Senhora Soares travelled by train to Victoria railway station and were met by The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, with The Prince of Wales and The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon.

Their Excellencies, accompanied by Her Majesty and His Royal Highness, drove in a Carriage Procession to Buckingham Palace with a Sovereign's Escort of the Household Cavalry.

Gun Salutes were fired in Green Park by the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery and at the Tower of London by the Honourable Artillery Company.

Guards of Honour were provided at Gatwick Airport by The Queen's Colour Squadron of the Royal Air Force, at Victoria Station by the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards and at Buckingham Palace by The Queen's Guard (2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards).

The Queen invested The President of the Portuguese Republic with the Insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

The President of the Portuguese Republic and Senhora Soares this afternoon drove to Westminster Abbey where His Excellency laid a Wreath at the Grave of the Unknown Warrior.

Later, at St James's Palace, The President and Senhora Soares received an Address of Welcome by the Lord Mayor and Councillors of the City of Westminster.

The President of the Portuguese Republic and Senhora Soares afterwards visited Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

The Rt Hon John Smith MP (Leader of the Opposition) subsequently called on The President of the Portuguese Republic.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening gave a State Banquet in honour of The President of the Portuguese Republic and Senhora Soares at which Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, The Prince and Princess of Wales, The Duke of York, The Princess Royal and Commander Timothy Laurence RN, The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, The Duke and Duchess of Kent, Prince and Princess Michael of Kent and Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy and the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy were present.

The following had the honour of being invited:

Suite of The President of the Portuguese Republic: His Excellency Senhor José Manuel Durão Barroso (Minister of Foreign Affairs) and Senhora Durão Barroso, Professor Adriano Moreira (Vice-President of the Portuguese Parliament), Senhor Jorge Sampaio (Mayor of Lisbon), Senhor António Maria Pereira (Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of Foreign Affairs), General Carlos Azeredo (Head of The President's Military Household) and Senhora Azeredo, Ambassador João Diogo Nunes Barata (Chief of Cabinet of The President), Ambassador António Syder Santiago (Chief of Protocol) and Senhor Syder Santiago and Commander Rogério Vieira Fontes (Aide-de-Camp).

Specially attached in attendance upon The President of the Portuguese Republic and Senhora Soares:

The Lady Elton (Lady in Waiting), The Lord Camoys (Lord in Waiting) and the Lady Camoys, Mr Hugh Arbuthnott (British Ambassador at Lisbon) and Mrs Arbuthnott and Major James Patrick (Equerry in Waiting).

Ambassadors: His Excellency the Ambassador of the Republic of El Salvador and Senora de Rosales-Rivera, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Portuguese Republic, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Republic of Mozambique and Mrs Panguene, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark and Mrs Thorning-Petersen, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Brazil and Senhora Flecha de Lima, His Excellency the Ambassador of the French Republic and Madame Dorin, His Excellency the Ambassador of Japan and Madame Kitamura, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa and Mrs Durr, His Excellency the Ambassador of the United States of America and His Excellency the Ambassador of Spain and Senora de Aza.

Members of the Portuguese Embassy: Mr Francisco Manuel Seixas da Costa (Minister Counsellor), Mr António Valente (Diplomatic Advisor to the President), Mr Duarte Ramalho Ortigão (Portuguese Consul General) and Mr Jorge Ryder Torres Pereira (Second Secretary).

The Cabinet: The Lord Chancellor and the Lady Mackay of Clashfern, the Prime Minister and Mrs Major, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and the Hon Mrs Douglas Hurd, the Lord Privy Seal and Lady Wakeham, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and the Hon Mrs William Waldegrave and the Secretary of State for National Heritage and the Hon Mrs Peter Brooke.

Special Invitations: The Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Carey, the Archbishop of York and Mrs Habgood, the Rt Hon the Speaker, the Lord Great Chamberlain, the Lord and Lady Carrington, the Lord and Lady Thomson of Monifieth, the Lady Soames (Chairman, Royal National Theatre Board), the Lord Plumb (MEP for the Cotswolds) and the Lady Plumb, the Lord and Lady Callaghan of Cardiff, the Lord Richard (Leader of the Opposition in the House of Lords), the Lord Chief Justice of England and the Lady Taylor of Gosforth, the Rt Hon the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, the Rt Hon John Smith MP (Leader of the Opposition) and Mrs Smith, the Rt Hon Robin Leigh-Pemberton (Governor, Bank of England) and Mrs Leigh-Pemberton, the Rt Hon Paddy Ashdown MP (Leader of the Liberal Democrats) and Mrs Ashdown, Sir Peter Middleton (Chairman, Barclays de Zoete Wedd) and Lady Middleton, General Sir Peter Inge (Chief of the General Staff) and Lady Inge, Sir Robin Butler (Secretary of the Cabinet) and Lady Butler, Admiral Sir Jock Slater (Vice Chief of the Defence Staff) and Lady Slater, Sir David Gillmore (Permanent Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) and Lady Gillmore, Sir Michael Simpson-Orlebar (Director, Canning House) and Lady Simpson-Orlebar, Sir Leslie Martin (Architect), Professor Sir Richard Southwood (Vice-Chancellor, University of Oxford) and Lady Southwood, Sir Michael Angus (President, Confederation of British Industry) and Lady Angus, the Lord Mayor of Westminster and the Lady Mayoress of Westminster, Mr Bobby Charlton (Director, Manchester United Football Club) and Mrs Charlton, Mr Michael Broadbent (Director, Christie, Manson and Woods) and Mrs Broadbent, Mr Paul Condon (Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis) and Mrs Condon, Mr Peter Dawson (Former President, UK/Portuguese Chamber of Commerce) and Mrs Dawson, Mr David Evans (Writer), Mr and Mrs Richard Hawkins (Sylvia Loch, Chairman of the Lusitano Breed Society), Professor Helder Macedo (Head of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies Department, Kings College, London) and Mrs Macedo, Mr Peter Stothard (Editor, The Times) and Mrs Stothard, Mr Benjamin Whitaker (Director, Gulbenkian Foundation) and Mrs Whitaker and Professor Edwin Williamson (Chair of Hispanic Studies, University of Edinburgh) and Mrs Williamson.

Colonel Thomas Hall was received by The Queen and received from Her Majesty his Stick of Office upon his appointment as Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 27: The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this morning attended the Launch of Save the Children Fund Week 1993, Trade Union Congress Headquarters, 30 Great Russell Street, London WC1.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 27: The Princess of Wales, President, Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, this morning attended the International Conference "Eating Disorders 93", Kensington New Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8.

Mr Patrick Jephson was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron of the Outward Bound Trust, will attend the Variety Club of Great Britain - Outward Bound Trust Sports Award luncheon at the Royal Lancaster Hotel at 12.15; and will attend the 60th anniversary of the CBF World Jewish Relief at the London Hilton on Park Lane at 7.30.

The Prince of Wales, as President of the King Edward's Hospital Fund for London, will preside at a general council meeting at the King's Fund Centre, Camden, at 10.15; and will deliver the global security lecture at Senate House, Cambridge, at 5.10.

The Princess Royal, as President of The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will open the Greenwich Carer Centre, Macbean Street, Woolwich, at 10.00; as Patron of the Spinal Injuries Association, will attend the launch of The Spinal Injuries Association appeal at Haberdashers' Hall at 12.45; as President of the Royal Yachting Association, will attend a meeting of the council at the Royal Thames Yacht Club at 4.10; as Patron of The Home Farm Trust, will attend the premiere of Edwin Drood at the Curzon, Shaftesbury Avenue, at 7.50.

Princess Margaret, as Patron of the Hallé Concerts Society, will attend a ladies' luncheon at the Holiday Inn, Crowne Plaza Midland Hotel, Manchester, at 12.40 in aid of the Hallé Endowment Trust; and will open the thoracic medicine and heart transplant units at Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester, at 2.50.

The Duke of Kent, as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, will conduct the annual investiture of grand office and attend the grand festival at Freemasons' Hall at 3.45.

Princess Alexandra, patron, will visit Lambourn Court of the Anchor Housing Association at Walton Way, Newbury, at 2.30.

Memorial services

Lord Bruntisfield

Baroness Thatcher, OM, read a lesson at a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Lord Bruntisfield held yesterday in the Chapel of St Mary Undercroft, Palace of Westminster. Canon Donald Gray officiated. Colonel Lord Bruntisfield and the Hon Anthony Warrender, sons, also read lessons. The Hon Robin Warrender, son, read *Remember* by Christina Rossetti. Among those present were:

Tania Lady Bruntisfield (widow), Lord and Lady Reay (son-in-law and daughter), Lady Bruntisfield, the Hon Mrs Anthony Warrender and the Hon Mrs Robin Warrender (daughters-in-law), Major the Hon Michael Warrender, the Hon Jonathan and Mrs Warrender, Patrick Warrender, Mr and the Hon Mrs Francis Akers-Douglas, Mr and the Hon Mrs Anthony Bune, the Hon Alastair and Mrs Campbell, Mr and Mrs Francis Hazeel the Hon Antonia Mackay and the Hon Isabel Mackay (grandchildren), Joseph Akers-Douglas and Thomas Campbell (great-grandsons), the Master of Reay (stepgrandson), Grace Countess of Dudley (sister-in-law), the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury, Viscount and Viscountess Head, the Hon Mrs Marten, the Rev Francis Pym, Mr and Mrs Martin Pym, Miss Rebekah Pym, Miss Victoria Pym, Major and Mrs William Cubitt, Mr and Mrs James Hedges, Mr Hugo Crawley, Mr Nicholas Crawley, Mr David Graham, Mr and Mrs William Graham, Prince John Radziwill, Mrs E de Warrenne Waller, Mrs Elizabeth Wyndham.

The Duke of Beaufort, the Marquess of Salisbury, the Marquess of Douro, the Earl of Arran, Fiona Countess of Arran, the Earl of Haddington, the Earl and Countess of Wilton, Lord John Manners, Lord and Lady Charles Cecil, Lady John Cholmondeley, Lord Michael Pratt, Lord Ampthill (chairman of committees, House of Lords), Lord Pym, Lady Thorneycroft, Baroness Trumpington, Lady Vestey, the Hon Douglas Hogg, QC, MP, Lady Margaret Myddelton, Lady Doreen Prior-Palmer, Lady Daphne Straight, Lady Mary Russell, Lady Margaret Tennant.

The Hon Lady de Zulueta, the Hon Richard Beaumont, the Hon Mrs Elizabeth Fairbairn, the Hon David Howard, the Hon Sir Charles and Lady Morrison, the Hon Peter and Mrs Ward, the Hon Mark and Mrs Wyndham, Mr and the Hon Mrs Colin Chisholm, Lady Griffin, Lady Hornby, Lady Legge-Bourke, Mr Christopher Balfour, Mr Mark Birley, Mr Alistair Buchanan, Mrs David Bune, Mr Nigel Cayzer, Mrs Peter Cazalet, Mr J W Dixon, Mr Neil Edmonstone, Mr and Mrs Rupert Galliers-Pratt, Mrs John Gough, Mr David Graham.

Mr David Hicks, Mrs Lucinda Green, Mrs David Heathcoat-Amory, Mr Victor Hill, the Rev Frank Johnston, Mr Keith Johnston, Mrs Edward Kaberry-Brown, Mrs Alexander Kennedy, Miss Dora King, Mr Douglas Leese, Mrs Roderic More O'Ferrall, Count Peter Munster, Countess Veronica Munster, Mr John Nash, Mrs Aileen Plunket, Miss Diana Porter, Colonel and Mrs Edward Remington-Hobbs.

Mr Charles Cholmondeley, Mr David Kerr, Mrs Konrad Legg, Mr David Metcalfe, Mr R d'Erlanger, Mr and Mrs Harry Hyams, Miss Noelene Watson, Mrs Elizabeth Wyndham, Miss Melissa Wyndham and Mr Tom Parr (Colefax and Fowler).

Mr Arthur Frayling

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Mr Arthur Frederick Frayling was held yesterday at St James's, Garlickhythe. The Rev John Paul officiated, assisted by the Rev Vic Read. Professor Christopher Frayling, son, and Mr Simon Reiss read the lessons. Mr Boe Hansen, President of the International Fur Trade Federation, paid tribute and Canon Nicholas Frayling, son, gave an address.

Lord Zuckerman

A Memorial Service for Lord Zuckerman will take place on Wednesday, May 5, at noon at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, 28 St John's Wood Road, NW8. No tickets required.

Mr Guy Nevill

A Memorial Service for Guy Nevill will be held at St Luke's Church, Sydney Street, London, SW3, on Wednesday, May 19, at 5.30pm.



Miss Nicola LeFanu, the composer, is 46 today

Birthdays today

Lady Helen Windsor celebrates her birthday today.

Mr Ian Beer, former head master, Harrow School, 62; Professor Hugh Bentall, cardiac surgeon, 73; the Earl of Breadalbane and Holland, 74; Mr Mike Brearley, cricketer and psychoanalyst, 51; Baroness Carnegy of Lour, 68; Sir Ivor Cohen, chairman, Remploy, 62; Commandant Elizabeth Craig-McFeely, former director, WRNS, 66; Mr Duane Eddy, guitarist, 55; Mr Tony Ford, director, Crafts Council, 55; Mrs Odette Hallowes, GC, wartime agent, 81; Mr Justice Leonard, 67; Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor, 69; Dr M.D. Longfield, former director, Teesside Polytechnic, 65; Mr William Moodie, chief constable, Fife, 62; Dr Jeffrey Tate, conductor, 50; Mr J.L. Thorn, former headmaster, Winchester College, 68; Mr Garry Weston, chairman, Associated British Foods, 66; Mrs Helen Williams, former high mistress, St Paul's Girls' School, 55; the Ven Sam Woodhouse, former Archdeacon of London, 81.

Lecture

Company of Information Technologists

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended a lecture yesterday at Chartered Accountants' Hall. The lecture was delivered by Mr William Gates III to the Company of Information Technologists after he was made an honorary freeman of the company by Mrs Steve Shirley, Master.

Reception

Board of Deputies of British Jews

Sir Sigmund Sternberg, Chairman of the International Council of Christians and Jews, was host at a reception held yesterday at Wolborn House in honour of the Ambassador for the Federal Republic of Germany and Baroness von Richtofen and to mark the completion of the ambassador's term of office at the Court of St James. His Honour Israel Finestein, QC, President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, presided.

RAF College, Cranwell

Air Vice-Marshal T Garden, Assistant Chief of Defence Staff (Programmes), was the Reviewing Officer at the graduation of 81 officers of no 145 Initial Officer Training Entry from the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell.

Graduating Student Officers
General Duties Branch - Pilot
Flying Officers: S M Abra BEng, I M Brosch BSc, A C Conner BSc, P D Froome BEng, K A Gambold BSc, G R Glaves BA, I Grogan BSc, J Helliwell BSc, E T U Molyneux MEng, R E G Pattie BA, T L Quigley LLB, WRAF. Pilot Officers: J P M Adamson BSc, S M Banks BEng, WRAF, D S Cochrane BSc, M L Hunt BSc, P K Kennard BA, D J Kenyon BEng, S A Martin BEng, P F Millar BSc, S I Moore BSc, N R Morley BSc, J B Morris BCom, D R Moyes BEng, M G Rhind BEng, P R Singleton BSc, A J Stanton BA, A P Stradling BSc, E E A Stuart BA MEng, N Taylor BA. Acting Pilot Officers: M Kay, P B Lewis.
General Duties Branch - Navigator
Flying Officers: J P Mullholland BSc, S R Sexton BEng, R J Yates BEng. Pilot Officers: D M Battersby BSc, J R Downey BA, R J House BSc, WRAF, G Lloyd-Evans BEng. Acting Pilot Officer: D A Ashley.
General Duties (Ground) Branch - Air Traffic Control
Pilot Officer: J L Haigh, BA WRAF; Acting Pilot Officers: T C Draper, M L Pymm WRAF.
General Duties (Ground) Branch - Fighter Control
Flying Officers: A S Green BEng, J S Hixon; Pilot Officer: G B Cooke BSc.
Engineer Branch
Flight Lieutenants: C R Chapman BEng, J C Mitchell BEng.
Flying Officers: J Baker BEng, J L Baldaro BEng, D M Baxter BEng, S J Bedding, J G Bonugli BEng, J L Chappel BEng, J A Connelly BEng, S Gee BEng, A D Head BEng, S J Janssen BEng, E R J Ley BEng, R A Lloyd BEng, I Lunan BEng, R E Marsh MEng, S A Parry BEng, A M Seymour BEng, WRAF, J Warren BEng, H M Wilkinson BEng, WRAF.
Pilot Officer M J Potts BEng.
Supply Branch
Flying Officers: D G Henry, A H Morgan BA, WRAF, C M A Tomlinson, WRAF.
Pilot Officer: P L Thurston BA.
Administrative Branch - Secretarial
Flying Officer J S Hathaway; Pilot Officer N C J Britain BA; Acting Pilot Officer: D K Edwards
Security Branch - RAF Regiment
Flying Officer J G Derbyshire BA.
Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service
Flying Officers: L H A Collins RGN, Andrew D Noble RGN RM.
Foreign and Commonwealth Students
Pilots
Air and Defence Forces of the Hungarian Home Defence Force: Officer Cadet I Rez.
Bahrain Defence Force: Second Lieutenant A E Al-Khalifa.
Romanian Air Force: Officer Cadet L Sirbu.
Prize winners
The Sword of Merit: Flying Officer R E G Pattie BA.
The Hennessy Trophy and Philip Sassoon Memorial Prize: Flying Officer K A Gambold BSc.
The British Aircraft Corporation Trophy: Flying Officer R F Marsh MEng.
Overseas Student Prize: Second Lieutenant A E Al-Khalifa.
The Group Captain Williams' Memorial Trophy: Flying Officer A H Morgan BA WRAF.
Sarah Moland Memorial rize: Flying Officer J G Derbyshire BA

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: King Edward IV, reigned 1461-70 and 1471-83, Rouen, 1442; Henry Dundas, 1st Viscount Melville, statesman, 1742; James Monroe, 5th American President 1817-25, Westmoreland County, Virginia, 1758; Francis Baily, astronomer, Newbury, Berkshire, 1774; Charles Robert Cockerell, architect, London, 1788; Charles Sturt, Australian explorer, Bengal, 1795; Anthony Ashley Cooper, 7th Earl of Shaftesbury, social reformer, London, 1801; Frances Hodgkins, painter, Dunedin, New Zealand, 1869; Lionel Barrymore, actor, Philadelphia, 1878; Antonio de Oliveira Salazar, Prime Minister of Portugal 1932-68, Coimbra, 1889.

DEATHS: Thomas Betterton, actor and dramatist, London, 1710; Count Johann von Struensee, physician and politician, executed, Copenhagen, 1792; John Abernethy, surgeon, Enfield, 1831; Sir Charles Bell, surgeon and anatomist, North Hallow, Worcestershire, 1842; Gilbert A. Becket, comic writer, Boulogne, 1856; Sir Samuel Cunard, shipowner, London, 1865; Benito Mussolini, Italian dictator, executed by partisans, Giulinodi di Mezzegra, 1945; Richard Hughes, novelist, Harlech, 1976.

Captain Cook landed in Australia at Botany Bay and named the country New South Wales, 1770.

The crew of the *Bounty*, led by Fletcher Christian, mutinied against the harsh life at sea under Captain Bligh, 1789.

Lord Wandsworth College

The Governors of Lord Wandsworth College are pleased to announce the appointment as headmaster of Mr Guy Waller, currently a housemaster at Radley College, in succession to Mr Guy Dodd who has been appointed to the headship of Truro School from September 1993.

School news

Latymer Upper School
Summer Term at Latymer Upper School starts today and ends on Thursday, July 8. The Captain of Cricket is A.A. Choudry, Captain of Boats is R. El-Shirbiny and Captain of Athletics is N.G.E. Maddox. The Latymer and Godolphin Orchestra Concert is on Thursday, May 13 and Founder's Day is Thursday, May 20. A reunion for all Old Latymerians who joined the school between 1962 and 1967 will be held on Friday, June 18. Invitations may be obtained from the Second Master's Secretary at the school on 081 741 1851.

Prep
Mr Richard Dell, MA (Oxon), currently Head of Penrhos College Junior School, North Wales, has been appointed Headmaster of Newton Prep, Battersea, London, with effect from January 1994.

Appointment

John Richard Leigh Thomas to be a full-time Chairman of Industrial Tribunals assigned to Southampton region and sitting at Reading.

Marriage

Mr R.R. Wirgman and Miss L.E. Younghusband

The marriage took place on Saturday, April 24, 1993, at the Church of St John the Evangelist, Northington, between Mr Rupert Wirgman, younger son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs E.I. Wirgman, and Miss Lucy Younghusband, daughter of the late Mr Cary Younghusband and of Mrs Younghusband. The Rev C. Rye Smith and the Rev A. Croad officiated.

The bride was given away by her brother, Mr Christopher Younghusband, and was attended by Miss Emma Wirgman, Lucy and Eliza Caminada, Frederick Wade and Angus Boyle.

A reception was held at Avington Park, Winchester, and the honeymoon is being spent in the British Virgin Islands.

Church news

Church of Scotland

Induction
The Rev Andrew MacLean to St Andrew's, Port Glasgow.
Ordination and Induction
The Rev Stephen J Smith to St Rule's, Monifieth.
The Rev David J Torrance to Campsie.
Translations
The Rev Alasdair F Cameron From Kinnoull, Perth to Sherwood, Paisley.
The Rev Kevin MacKenzie from Wemyss to Ochiltree with Stair.
The Rev John D Thomson from Methil to Pathhead, Kirkcaldy.
The Rev W Brian Wilkinson from East, Kirkwall to Glenaray and Inveraray.
Retirements
The Rev William G G Baird from St John's with North Queensferry, Inverkeithing.
The Rev Christina A Douglas from Inveraven and Glenlivet.
The Rev Ian W MacBain from Coatdyke, Coatbridge.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.T.L. Bateman and Miss H. Balsig Nielsen
The engagement is announced between Clive, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Bateman, of South Godstone, Surrey, and Helle, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Karl Erik Nielsen, of Jyderup, Denmark.

Lieutenant Colonel the Hon A.J.C. Campbell and Miss P.F. Palmer
The engagement is announced between Alastair, son of Lord and Lady Campbell of Croy, and Primrose, daughter of Mr William Palmer, of Nun Monkton, York, and Mrs Felicia Palmer, of Low Winsley, Harrogate.

Mr T.A. Clover and Miss A.S. Pinder
The engagement is announced between Anthony, elder son of His Honour R.G. Clover, TD, QC, and Mrs Clover, of Sheringham, Norfolk, and Sarah, second daughter of Mr and Mrs John Pinder, of Pidford Manor, Rookley, Isle of Wight.

Mr M.W. O'Gorman and Miss M.J. Corbett
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of the late Mr Martin O'Gorman and of Mrs Sylvia Cataldo, of Ilfracombe, Devon, and Michelle, daughter of Mr Michael Corbett, of Preston, Lancashire, and Mrs Carol Lowry, of Manchester.

Mr C.E. Orme and Mrs S.A.L. Hollis
The engagement is announced between Charles Orme, of East Boreston, Devon, and Sarah Hollis, née Pinkney, of Ashridge House, Totnes, Devon.

Mr N. Parkes and Miss S.C.G. Lloyd
The engagement is announced between Neal, son of Mr and Mrs Keith Parkes, of The Slade, Bucklebury, Berkshire, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Eric Lloyd, of Miles's Green, Bucklebury, Berkshire.

Mr N.R. Sealy and Mlle C. Barbier
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Professor and Mrs R. Sealy, of Neston, Cheshire, and Cecile, youngest daughter of M and Mme M. Barbier, of Poitiers, France.

Mr M.W. Soundy and Miss E.R. Manders
The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Soundy, of Mattingley, Hampshire, and Emma, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Manders, of Chelmsford, Essex.

Mr A.G. Thomas and Miss F.C. Jones
The engagement is announced between Alastair, son of Mr and Mrs G.P.R. Thomas, of Badgers Mount, Kent, and Felicity, second daughter of Mrs C.R. Suckling and stepdaughter of Mr A.B. Suckling, of London, SE3.

Mr J.P. Wray and Miss S.C. Francome
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, elder son of Mr and Mrs Philip Wray, of Chadlington, Oxfordshire, and Suzanne, daughter of Mr Harold Francome and the late Mrs Francome, of Sutton Benger, Wiltshire.

Dinners

United Oxford and Cambridge University Club
Count Nikolai Tolstoy was the principal speaker at a dinner of the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club held last night at the clubhouse. Mr Gerald Bowden, vice-chairman, presided.

Chief Constables' Club
Mr Kenneth Clarke, QC, MP, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Chief Constables' Club held last night at Plaisterers' Hall. Mr David Owen, Chief Constable of North Wales, presided.

Two Cities Dining Club
Mr John Yaxley, Commissioner for Hong Kong in London, was the guest speaker at a dinner of the Two Cities Dining Club held last night at the St Ermin's Hotel. Mr Kenneth Dibben presided.

Foundation for Science and Technology
Lord Butterworth, Chairman of the Council of the Foundation for Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and dinner discussion held last night at the Royal Society. Mr Mark H.J. Radcliffe, Mr John Puttick, Mr Terry Morgan and Mr Alasdair Nisbet were the speakers. Among those present were:
Viscount Caldecote, Lord Aldington, Lord Ardwick, Lady Butterworth, Lord Campbell of Croy, Field Marshal Lord Carver, Lord Gregson, Lord Hunter of Newington, Lord Perry of Walton, Lord Taylor of Gryfe, Professor Sir Hugh Ford, Sir Ronald Mason, Mr P L Bunn, Mr Joe Carr and Dr W T Little.

European Atlantic Group
Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, Chairman of the European-Atlantic Group, accompanied by Viscountess Montgomery, presided at a dinner discussion held last night at the St Ermin's Hotel after a meeting held in the House of Commons, by courtesy of Mr Peter Temple-Morris, MP, a vice-chairman. Earl Jellicoe, Mr Derek Enright, MP, and Mr Andrew Rowe, MP, also spoke.

TEL: 071 481 4000 PERSONAL COLUMN FAX: 071 481 9313

People do not lay to heart the truth, that those whom God has chosen enjoy his grace and mercy, and that he comes to the help of his holy people. Wisdom of Solomon 4 : 15

BIRTHS

COHEN - On 25th April 1993, to Emily (nee Tanner) and Sami, a daughter, Susannah, a sister for Rosie.

DANE - On April 23rd, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Jennifer (nee Anstead) and Nigel, a daughter, Emma Charlotte.

DHADA - On April 8th 1993, in Greeley, Colorado, to Safiah (née von Bissing) and Mustafah, a second daughter, Zubeda.

ECKERSLEY - On 20th April 1993, to Juliet (nee Knight) and David, a daughter, Evangeline Violet Margaret, a sister for Peter and Chantha.

GOULDMAN - On April 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Gill and Graham, a son, Alexander Hayden, a brother for Rosanna.

GRATTON - On 24th April, to Claire (nee Barraclough) and Peter, a son, James Peter Rutherford, a brother for Charles.

JOLY - On 24th April at St Mary's, Paddington, to Rose (née Scott) and Charles, a son, Benedict Jack James.

MANCROFT - On Sunday 25th April 1993, to Emma (née Peart) and Benjamin, a daughter.

MATTHEWS - On April 19th at The Portland Hospital was born to Mary and Luke Matthews, a daughter, Beatrice Peck, sister to Benjamin and Andrew.

MERSON - On April 23rd 1993, to Geoff and Gen, a daughter, Sarah Grace, a sister to Ella, Tom and Becky.

O'NEILL - On April 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Patsy and Sean, a beautiful son, Harry, a brother for Carley and Tilly.

BIRTHS

PECK - On 19th April, to Cynthia 'Cindy' (nee Leslie) and Andrew, a son, William Henry Gilbert.

POTTER - On April 26th, to Serena (née Hanson) and Jeff, a son, Alexander, a brother for Max.

PREECE - On 19th April 1993, to Jane (née Curtis) and Martyn, a daughter, Catherine Joanna, a sister for Russell.

RICKETTS - Christopher, born at the Wellington Hospital at 8.57 am on 24th April to Michael and Gillian (née Haldane).

SCOTT-BOWDEN - On 26th April 1993, to Nicola (née Shepherd) and James, a son, Arthur James, a brother for Harry and Edward.

DEATHS

BENNETT - On 25th April 1993, Violet Regina, widow of Paul Bennett V.C., M.C. Formerly Magistrate at Marlborough Street, at her residence in Marostica, Vicenza, Italy. Contact: Redshanks, Lilley, Luton, Beds. LU2 8LH.

BLACKWOOD - John Alexander on April 24th 1993, aged 60, after a short illness bravely fought. Dearly loved son of Cynthia and the late William. Sadly missed by Susan, John, Holly and James and many friends. Grateful thanks to the staff of the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, for their care. Funeral Service at St Michael and All Angels, Marston Road, Oxford, on Friday 30th April at 10 am. Enquiries to (0865) 748855.

DEATHS

CARLETON-SMITH - Katia, peacefully at home on 26th April 1993, after a long illness, aged 51 years. Beloved wife of Michael and mother of Mark, Andreas and Sebastian. Funeral and Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's, Great Easton, Leicestershire, on Wednesday 5th May at 12.30 pm. No flowers but donations appreciated to be shared by the Leicestershire Hospice and Marie Curie Cancer Care, 28 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QG.

CLARKE - On April 26th 1993, peacefully at Pentrehobyn, Mold, Clwyd, Mabel Iris Elfrida aged 89 years. Wife of the late Cecil Clarke and mother of Teddy, Mary and Susan, grandmother, and twin sister of Noreen Lloyd. Funeral Service at St Mary's Parish Church, Nercwys, nr Mold, on Friday 30th April at 11am. Donations if desired between Mold, Nercwys and Pontblyddyn Churches. Enquiries J.E. Davies, Wrexham Street, Mold, tel: (0352) 700155.

CORKISH - On 24th April in Stoke Mandeville Hospital after a short illness Winifred, wife of the late Norman Christian Corkish, beloved mother of James and the late Gillian. Grandmother to Catherine, Rachel and Alexandra. Funeral Service to be held at the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Great Missenden, on Tuesday May 4th at 11 am. Flowers or donations to the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home Fund, c/o H.J. & A. Wright Ltd., 106 High St., Great Missenden, Bucks. HP16 0BE. Private funeral. Memorial Service to be announced.

DEATHS

COWAN - On April 24th 1993 Gwen of Newnham, Glos., formerly of Kitale, Chute and Pewsey. Wife of the late Roy, mother of Ian and Bruce. Funeral Service Tuesday May 4th 11.30 am at St Peter's Church, Newnham. Flowers may be sent to the Church or donations if preferred for the Pied Piper Appeal or the RNID may be sent to Philip Blatchly & Son, 46 Newerne Street, Lydney, Glos. tel (0594) 842877

COX - On 21st April at home in Cheltenham, Kathleen Mary (Babs) née Rogerson, after a long illness borne with fortitude. Loved wife and best friend of Cyril (Bill), adored mother and grandmother. By previous mutual agreement this notice follows the funeral. No calls please.

CRAWFORD - Dr. J.M.B. Crawford M.A. J.D. Ph.D. (St Andrews), Attorney and Counsellor at Law, died peacefully in his birthplace, Tacoma, Washington, on 18th April 1993. He is survived by mother Elisabeth and his sons Teilhard and Baethan. Services will be held today April 28th at 3pm, Calvary Cemetery, Tacoma. Memorials may be sent c/o The Town House, Suite 802, 117 Tacoma Avenue, North Tacoma, Washington, USA 98430. Tel: 0101 206 627 8279.

CRAZE - Daniel, resident of Florida formerly of Tudor Manor Gardens, Watford. Peacefully on 24th April 1993 at Tudor Manor Gardens aged 56 years. Will be sadly missed by his wife Lynda, all his family and many friends. Funeral Service to take place at West Herts Crematorium on Thursday 29th April 1993 at 1.30 pm. Flowers or donations to South West Herts Hospice Appeal c/o M.K. Gunder Funeral Services, The Old Bakery, Lye Lane, Bricket Wood, St Albans, Herts. AL2 3TL. tel: (0923) 893372

DURHAM - On 23rd April 1993, peacefully at Paternoster House (NH), Waltham Abbey, Douglas George of Roydon, Essex, in his 82nd year, beloved husband of Mary, father of Brian and grandfather of Christopher and Suzie. Funeral at Roydon Village Church, 12 noon, Tuesday 4th May. No flowers please but donations may be sent to British Red Cross Society, Hertfordshire Branch, Baker Street, Hertford

HEIMANN - Adelheid (Heidi) peacefully at home on April 25th. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium, Thursday May 6th at 2 30 pm.

KNIGHTON - On April 23rd after a short illness in hospital, Jeremy James Louis, formerly of Elm Park Gardens, Chelsea, Andrewes House, The Barbican and regular visitor in Claviers, Southern France. Enquiries to Leverton & Sons Ltd. (071-387 6075).

LOWE - William Michael (Mike) on 23rd April 1993. Much loved husband of Julia and dear father of William and Peter and grandson Stuart. Funeral Service at Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham, on Wednesday 5th May at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired, to The Thoracic and Cardiac Surgical Trust Fund, Harefield, c/o J Worley (Funeral Directors) Ltd., 48 Lawn Lane, Hemel Hempstead where further enquiries can be made on (0442) 255465.

METHERELL - Beryl on Saturday 24th April 1993, peacefully at Northwood, aged 60. Much loved wife of Tony, devoted mother of Charles, Julian and Roger and grandmother of Charlotte. Funeral private. Service of Thanksgiving Saturday 15th May at 12 noon in Emmanuel Parish Church, Northwood. No flowers, but donations in her memory to Leukaemia Research Fund c/o E. Spark Ltd., 104 Pinner Road, Northwood, HA6 1BS

PRICE - On April 26th at home, Colonel Martin Price DSO, OBE. Funeral at St Petrock's Church, South Brent, on Friday 30th April at 3 pm. Family flowers only, donations to Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

ROPER - On April 24th 1993, Brian Arnold aged 60 years of Burnham-on-Crouch, passed away peacefully, but unexpectedly in the Royal London Hospital, beloved husband of Jill, father of Karen, Shân, Tamsin and Jonathan, brother of Olwyn Gamble. Service at All Saints Church, Creeksea, near Burnham-on-Crouch at 10am, followed by cremation at Chelmsford Crematorium at 11am on Tuesday May 4th. Family and close friends only. Cut flowers. Memorial Service to be arranged.

SLATER - Mary (née Morley) on 25th April 1993 at University College Hospital London. Funeral private.

TISDALL - On Tuesday 27th April 1993, John Tisdall, R.D.**, of Bulcombe, Bristol; Clerk to the Lieutenancy of Avon. A Thanksgiving Service will be held in the Lord Mayor's Chapel, Bristol on Friday, 7th May 1993 at 12.30, followed by a buffet lunch at HMS Flying Fox, to which all are welcome. Enquiries to Lt. Cdr. Coombes (0272 668667). A Funeral Service for family and parish will be held at Bulcombe at 3 pm. No flowers please, but donations in his memory may be sent to Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

TREMEER - On April 26th at the Conquest Hospital, Hastings, Renée aged 64 years, beloved wife of Anthony Tremeer and much loved mother of Charles, Victoria and Rachel. Funeral Service at Winchelsea Church, 11 am Tuesday May 4th. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to The Church Flower Fund c/o The Rectory, St Thomas Street, Winchelsea, East Sussex.

TOPHAM - On Sunday 25th April peacefully at The Ipswich Hospital, Monica, dearly beloved wife of the late Brigadier J.V. Topham (Indian Cavalry Ret'd), much loved mother of Malcolm (deceased) and Anna and dear grandmother of Suzie and Ben, Nuggy, Julian and Andrew. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at St Andrew's Church, Marlesford, on Wednesday 12th May at 3 pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if wished for Marlesford Church Funds, c/o E.B. Button and Sons Ltd., 24 St John's Street, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

WYNDHAM-BROWN - On 24th April 1993 at Park House Nursing Home, Sandy, Beds. Betty Wooton aged 92 years, formerly of The White Cottage, Great Hallingbury. Funeral Service takes place on Wednesday 5th May at 2.30 pm at Bedford Crematorium. Enquiries contact Gamlingay (0767) 50862.

YEANDLE-HIGNELL - On Saturday April 24th 1993, The Rev. Dr. John Wilfred, adored husband of Penny and father of James, after a long illness peacefully at home surrounded by those whom he loved, and loved him. Sue, Helen, Christine and Ann. Sleep on and take thy rest. Service to take place at St Mary's Church, Chard, on Friday 30th April 1993 at 12.30 pm. Flowers if desired c/o A.J. Wakely and Sons, 45 Holyrood Street, Chard, Somerset.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BROWNE - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of L.M. 'Mickey' Browne M.B.E. of Belize will be held at All Hallows Church, Byward Street, London EC3, on Wednesday 23rd June at 11 am.

TURNBULL - A Memorial Service will be held for Emerson Muir Turnbull in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on Wednesday 19th May at 12 noon.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

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OBITUARIES

REYNOLD HIGGINS

Reynold Alleyne Higgins, a former Deputy Keeper in the Greek and Roman Department of the British Museum, died on April 18 aged 76. He was born on November 26, 1916.

REYNOLD Higgins was a scholar with a deserved international reputation for the excellence of his work on ancient jewellery, on minor sculpture in baked clay (terracottas) and Greek prehistory, on all of which he wrote very successfully. His affection for Greece was reflected in his long service to the British School at Athens, of whose managing committee he was chairman, 1975-79. For many years he was a popular guest lecturer on Hellenic cruises.

Higgins went to school at Sherborne. From there he went up as a scholar to Pembroke College, Cambridge, obtaining a first in Parts I and II of the Classical Tripos. It was at Cambridge that his later interest in the ancient world was first stimulated by Alan Wace, Laurence Professor of Classical Archaeology, but his first job was with the Coal Commission, the civil service predecessor of the National Coal Board.

As a Territorial, he was swept into the Army on the outbreak of war in 1939. During the Battle of France he served with the Queen Victoria Rifles. In May 1940 his battalion was part of the garrison of Calais when Churchill ordered the town to be defended "to the death" to keep the advancing German forces occupied and give a vital breathing space for the rest of the British Expeditionary Force to fall back on Dunkirk.

With the fall of Calais on May 27 Higgins was taken prisoner. For the remaining five years of the war he moved from one PoW camp to another, meeting in the process a wide range of fellow-prisoners, some of whom helped to reinforce his attachment to matters Greek. Freed, and demobilised in 1946, he returned briefly to service with the new National Coal Board. He was determined, however, to find a more congenial way of life.

In 1947 Higgins was appointed assistant keeper in the Greek and Roman department of the British Museum. In the same year he married Patricia Williams. These events remoulded his life, and gave him enduring happiness and satisfaction. For the next 30 years he worked in the British Museum, where he was promoted deputy keeper in 1965. Though he was briefly to be acting keeper, his long and distinguished career in the museum should have earned more substantial recognition.

Higgins joined a small group of able young scholars working under *Bernard Ashmole on the rehabilitation* of a department sadly scarred by the war. This experience brought *him* in daily contact with one of the *richest collections of Greek antiquities outside Greece*, an opportunity of which he was to make full and admirable use. The first fruits of this work were the two volumes of his *Catalogue of the Terracottas in the British Museum* I (1954) and II (1959). This was an innovative work in which he defined the regional characteristics of a great wealth of *minor sculpture from all over the Greek world, down to 350 BC.* He later wrote *Greek Terracottas*, for Methuen's Handbooks of Archaeology, the first comprehensive account in English.

One of his last books (1986) was *Tanagra and the Figurines* which combines most happily his detective instincts, his connoisseurship and his love of Greece. He was as prolific a scholar of jewellery, as the two editions of his *Greek and Roman Jewellery* (1960, 1981) make clear.



One of his great achievements was his demonstration in 1957 that the goldwork of the famous Aegina Treasure in the British Museum, first described by Sir Arthur Evans in 1893 and thought by him to have been c800 BC, was in fact Minoan of perhaps the 17th century BC. He later published a full account in *The Aegina Treasure* (1979). He was especially proud of his work on the Thracian Exhibition of 1976 in the British Museum (*Thracian Treasures from Bulgaria*), for the mounting of which he was very largely responsible.

Yet, despite all this, Higgins often said that it was the prehistory of the Aegean area that appealed to him more than any other branch of archaeology. He oversaw the Aegean display on the ground floor of the museum, including the new arrangement of the architectural sculpture from the Treasury of Atreus at Mycenae, in which he took particular interest. His very popular *Minoan and Mycenaean Art* (1967, revised 1981) is an eloquent comment on this side of his scholarship. *The Archaeology of Minoan Crete* (1973) for the Bodley Head archaeology series, was a highly readable introduction, of value to layman and student alike.

Though it might seem that all his professional career as an archaeologist was spent within the walls of the British Museum, Higgins nevertheless had a very wide first-hand knowledge of Greek lands. He had helped excavate at Mycenae in 1955, and spent long periods at Knossos in Crete (of which he was very fond) studying and publishing on terracottas from British excavations. He was a visiting fellow of the British School at Athens in 1969, when he travelled to museums all over Greece in search of comparative material for a projected catalogue of post-350 BC terracottas in the British Museum. His time as chairman of the School gave him further welcome opportunities for such visits, and he followed up his special interests on Aegina and at Tanagra.

Higgins first accompanied a Hellenic cruise in 1963, and immediately showed his flair for communicating his learning — and feeling — to non-specialist audiences. Thereafter he cruised at least once every year, broadening his direct knowledge of the ancient world and giving pleasure to thousands of those who travelled with him. Very few scholars could claim to have reached a wider audience or to have given a greater impression of humane learning.

He is survived by his wife Patricia and their three sons and two daughters.

HUGH BLASCHKO

Hugh Blaschko, FRS, biochemist, died at Oxford on April 18 aged 93. He was born on January 4, 1900.

IN THE world of medicine few have made more pioneering contributions than Hugh Blaschko. At Cambridge, his contributions to biochemical pharmacology provided a foundation upon which much later work was erected — leading to the development of drugs used to treat high blood pressure and Parkinson's disease. At Oxford his work on the physiologically active amines won him and the university worldwide renown.

Hermann Karl Felix Blaschko was born in Berlin where his father, Alfred Blaschko, was a distinguished dermatologist and activist in the field of public hygiene and venereal disease. Alfred Blaschko was a close friend of Max Born, the physicist, and Eduard Bernstein, the social democrat, through whom he was acquainted with leading Fabians including Stafford Cripps and the Webbs. He grew up in a liberal, cultured and well-informed circle of Berlin society before and during the first world war.

Although faintly aware of anti-Semitism as a child, his first serious encounter was in the winter of 1918-19 when, with his sister, he attended a series of lectures given by Albert Einstein in Berlin which were regularly broken up by anti-Jewish demonstrations. By this time he was a medical student and had begun a friendship with fellow student and subsequent Nobel laureate, Hans Krebs, which was to continue both in Cambridge and Oxford.

In 1925, after completing medical studies in Berlin and Freiburg and an internship in Göttingen, Blaschko accepted an unpaid research assistantship to Otto Meyerhof at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Biology at Berlin-Dahlem. Although his time with Meyerhof provided an excellent training, it neither resulted in much published work nor allowed Blaschko to develop his own area of interest. It was also marred by bouts of TB.

In 1926 Meyerhof gave Blaschko an introduction to Professor A. V. Hill, with whom Meyerhof had shared the Nobel Prize in 1923. There followed a year at University College London with Hill in 1929-30 where he found an atmosphere of friendly interaction and freedom very different from that he had experienced before. In the years to come that same openness was to characterise Blaschko's own laboratory in Oxford.

On leaving Meyerhof's new laboratory at Heidelberg in 1933 as the Nazis came to power, he returned to University College London and, while convalescing from tuberculosis, helped with the work of the Academic Assistance Council which had been set up by Hill, Archbishop Temple and Sir William Beveridge to aid refugee scholars. From there he went to Cambridge, where he worked in the Physiological Laboratory from 1934 to 1944.

There, in 1939, he made his first major contribution to biochemical pharmacology. He was the first to describe the metabolic pathway leading to the biosynthesis of adrenaline and noradrenaline from the amino acid tyrosine. It also led Blaschko to many discoveries concerning the intracellular storage and secretion of physiologically-active amines. His other major area of scientific interest was the amine oxidases.

Blaschko moved to Oxford in 1944 where he eventually became Reader in Biochemical Pharmacology. He was elected FRS in 1962. At Oxford he helped to found Linacre House for postgraduate students and was made a fellow when it became a college. In later life he received



many honours including the Thudichum Medal of the Biochemical Society, the Schmiedeberg Plakette of the German Pharmacological Society, the Wellcome Gold Medal in Pharmacology, an honorary professorship at Heidelberg and honorary degrees from the universities of Berlin, Berne and Freiburg im Breisgau.

To his friends he seemed indestructible. The powers of his mind never flagged and until the end he went regularly to the laboratory where he inspired young and old alike. He travelled abroad frequently. It gave him great pleasure when he revisited Berlin in 1970 to be able to alight at an U-bahn station named after his father. The last occasion he went abroad was in 1990, when he visited his beloved Switzerland.

Following his marriage in 1944 he was supported wonderfully by his wife Mary. Their home in Oxford's Parktown became a point of pilgrimage for their many friends across national, generational and even cultural frontiers.

REAR-ADMIRAL ROBERT ALEXANDER

Rear-Admiral Robert Love Alexander, CB, DSO, DSC, wartime submarine commander, died at South Harting, Hants, on April 25 aged 79. He was born in Edinburgh on April 29, 1913.

ROBBIE Alexander's jovial Pickwickian persona was not at first sight in the mould of naval officers emerging from Dartmouth in 1930. But he had all the courage and inner strengths of fellow Scots of his background, as his record as one of the war's most intrepid and successful submarine captains attests.

He joined the Royal Navy from the junior school at Merchiston Castle, the son of a distinguished Merchant Navy captain. As a midshipman he served in the battle-cruiser *Repulse* and the cruiser *Kent* before volunteering for submarines in 1935.

Most of his generation of submariners paid the price of having to fight the war in hopelessly unsuitable, obsolete boats. All but three of the 16 "O", "P" and "R" class, mostly from the China Station, were lost.

Alexander's first command was the tiny coastal submarine *H32* which had been built during the first world war. He then took command of *Proteus* in the Mediterranean, before joining her sister-ship *Pandora*, then refitting in the United States. His only complaint was that he put on too much weight for lack of Scottish country dancing at Portsmouth, New Hampshire.



Pandora was destined for the flotilla based on Alexandria, but never got there. While she was disembarking a precious (and lethal) cargo of torpedoes, spare parts and aviation spirit in Malta a direct hit from a Stuka dive-bomber sank her. Most of the survivors were promptly lost in *Olympus* soon after she sailed for home.

Alexander won his DSO in command of the newly-built *Truculent* for sinking the German submarine *U308* in Norwegian waters. He got his DSC for his part in the daring raid in which six X-craft (midget submarines) attempted to sink the battleship *Tirpitz* as she lay within her heavily defended girdle of torpedo nets in Alten Fjord, north Norway, on September 22, 1943.

Only two of the six X-craft, which had to be towed a thousand miles across the North and Norwegian seas, in vile weather, to within range of the target by submarines, reached their objective. But one of the two was *X6*, which had been towed by Alexander's *Truculent*. It laid its four tons of amatol under *Tirpitz*, and the resulting detonation set off the charges laid by her sister craft, *X7*, crippling the German warship. As a result of this attack *Tirpitz*, which had posed a serious threat to Arctic convoys, was out of action until March 1944.

A week before he died Alexander made the journey to Cheltenham to join 15 of *Truculent's* surviving ship's company in a rollicking reunion. No one guessed he was in great pain for, as always, he had an infectious smile and pawky sense of humour, with never an unkind word for anyone.

During the Korean War he found himself directing air strikes from the aircraft carrier *Glory* when, as her second-in-command, he had to take over from her sick captain. He was next Chief of Staff to Flag Officer Submarines and then Captain (S/M) of the Malta-based Submarine Flotilla. As a rear-admiral he spent three years in Paris from 1962 as naval deputy to the Nato Supreme Allied Commander Europe, first General Norstadt and then Lemnitzer. It was a career backwater from which he retired to his beloved Hampshire.

In retirement, he served as a county councillor and did much for the Heart Foundation. He is survived by his wife Peggy, their son and three daughters.

HARRY ALEXANDER

Harry Houston "Bull" Alexander, one of Australia's oldest surviving Test cricketers, has died in Melbourne at the age of 87. He was born in Ascot Vale, Victoria, on June 9, 1905.

HARRY "Bull" Alexander was a fast bowler whose build was such as to have bestowed on him the most obvious of nicknames. He achieved notoriety more for the incidents he was involved in rather than any great personal feat.

He took part in the notorious "Bodyline" series in Australia in 1932-33 when England's fast bowlers were directed to bowl at the batsman's body rather than merely the stumps, and had an altercation on the field with Douglas Jardine, the England captain, who had a renowned dislike of Australians. Alexander wanted to retaliate by bowling bouncers, but was forbidden to do so by his own captain. Whether it was for this reason or the fact that he only took one wicket during the Test match in question, he never played for his country again.

Alexander was a strongly-built Victorian who, though not especially tall, had a wide chest and powerful arms and could intimidate top-class batsmen through his sheer pace. His strength was such that he could bowl for long periods in the hottest of weather.

By the age of 16 he was playing for Essendon, a third grade side in Melbourne, beginning an association with that club which was to last for 16 years. He opened the bowling for Victoria for seven seasons, beginning in 1929 when he was 24. By 1932 he was quick enough to take seven wickets for 95 against New South Wales and keep Ernie McCormick out of Victoria's side.

He achieved fame of a kind through being one of the Victorian bowlers who were treated with contempt in a Shield match by Sir Donald Bradman that same season. The great batsman's 238 was regarded as his finest innings to that date, in Australia.

Nevertheless, when Tim Wall was injured before the final Test of the 1932-33 series against England at Sydney, Alexander was considered good enough to take his place. England had already won the Ashes but Jardine decided to continue with the "Bodyline" tactics that had caused an uproar in Australia and furious communications between their authorities and MCC.

Bill Woodfull, the Australian captain refused to allow Alexander to bowl at Jardine's body, not that that stopped him after Jardine and Walter Hammond had drawn the umpire's attention to the footmarks that he was leaving in his follow through. England's captain, who did not speak to Australians if he could avoid doing so, suggested that Alexander put on sandshoes.

Alexander switched to bowling round the wicket and, after another complaint by Jardine, who reckoned the ball was being pitched nearer to the non-receiving end, hit him three times in the ribs in one over. He also broke Bob Wyatt's bat.

The crowd of 35,000 cheered as one. Yet England won the match comfortably and Alexander finished with just one wicket at a cost of 154 runs from 46 overs. The theory behind his selection, that he would match Harold Larwood for pace, had proved flawed. Alexander was not chosen to play Test cricket for Australia again, although he toured India with the national party in 1935-36.

He served with the Australian army in Crete, the Middle East and the Pacific Islands during the second world war and subsequently settled in Euroa, Victoria, where the ground has one of the best pitches in Australia.

He served as a councillor and was responsible for three England sides playing there, putting behind him the enmity caused by "Bodyline". In his first-class career, which was all too short, he took 95 wickets at 33.91 apiece and, as a tailender, scored 228 runs at an average of 6.16.

GEORGE WYNN-WILLIAMS

George Wynn-Williams, obstetrician and gynaecologist, died on April 2 aged 80. He was born on August 10, 1912.

GEORGE Wynn-Williams was a popular obstetrician and a skilful gynaecological surgeon who specialised in infertility.

He went to Rossall School and studied medicine at King's College and Westminster Hospital. During the war he acted as registrar and tutor in obstetrics and gynaecology at Westminster Hospital. He joined the Emergency Medical Service and in 1944 was Surgeon in Charge of a mobile surgical team to Portsmouth and Southampton.

In 1946 he began his long association with Queen Charlotte's Hospital and the Chelsea Hospital for Women as chief assistant and then consultant. At Chelsea he was the clinical member of a team which included the endocrinologist P. M. F. Bishop and the vaginal cytologist Freda Osmond-Clarke concerned with the investigation and treatment of infertility. They did original work on artificial insemination, on the significance of sperm antibodies causing infertility and on the prevention of miscarriage by diagnosing hormone deficiencies through detecting changes in vaginal cells.

Until his retirement in 1977 Wynn-Williams taught postgraduate students and midwives at Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital. He will be remembered by hundreds of grateful patients for his kindness and care, and for his cheerful optimism, which was reinforced by the red carnation he always displayed in his buttonhole.

He married in 1943 Lady Penelope, only daughter of the first and last Earl Jowitt. They had a daughter and two sons.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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FLIGHTS

ADELPHI THEATRE

" BLESS THE BRIDE "
BY A. P. HERBERT. WITH MUSIC BY VIVIAN ELLIS

Originality would seem to have been marked down by all concerned as the mortal enemy of success. Let the dreaded thing but raise its ugly head in an occasional witty line and it is overwhelmed at once by a new wave of familiar prettiness.

But for originality Mr. Cochran and his distinguished collaborators give us freshness. The show has the charm of an ornate valentine painted and lavendered by artists whose taste commands respect: and if some of the ballets are cut or given an extra touch of significance the stern avoidance of what is untried and doubtful may handsomely prove its strategical wisdom.

Certainly the story itself shows no lingering trace of quisling quality: it is conventional to the very last joint. On a croquet lawn of 1870, bright with bustles and with blazers ridiculously like modern pyjama jackets, the heart of the bride, a sweet young innocent of high degree, is ravished by a spirited Frenchman, who, whatever his native recommendations may be, is manifestly un-English. She elopes with him to France, pursued by her outraged family, returns amicably with them when the Prussian drums beat across the frontier, and, told that her *poilu* has died defending Paris, would bestow her sadly reluctant hand on a faithful, foolish Dobbin of the country militia did not her lover, strange to say, reappear alive and in good voice at the critical moment. The humour is no less conventional than the story. Frenchmen are comic in England, Englishmen are comic in France, bathing belles mince to the sea without getting wet.

It is M. Georges Guétary who first brings the heavily decorated stage to life with "Ma Belle Marguerite," a gaily traditional French *pastiche*, and his natural vivacity and accomplished singing carry the hero pleasantly along for the rest of the evening. Yet the evening owes fully as much to Miss Lizbeth Webb—a leading lady, as Mr. Cochran proudly announced at curtain-fall, discovered in the chorus—whose shy, engaging charm is married to a delightful singing voice. Mr. Brian Reece deftly proves that old jokes die hard. There is a considerable group of agreeable performance; and Miss Wendy Toye in her direction triumphantly circumvents originality and keeps everything fresh.

AMERICAN MUSICAL PLAY AT DRURY LANE

With the production of *Oklahoma* at Drury Lane on Wednesday playgoers in this country will be introduced to an American musical play which is said to mark a change in the treatment of this kind of entertainment. A part of the story is based on certain incidents in American history and much of the music is derived from American folk-songs. It was first performed in New York a few years ago and is still being played to large audiences. Its production here has been arranged by the New York Theatre Guild and the entire cast will be American.

ON THIS DAY

April 28 1947

Bless The Bride, *with Lizbeth Webb and Georges Guétary in the leading parts and the delightful songs of Vivian Ellis, proved extremely popular with postwar audiences and ran for over 880 performances. That same week* Oklahoma *was to open at Drury Lane to herald a new world of musical shows.*

THE TIMES TODAY

WEDNESDAY APRIL 28 1993

NEWS

Business leaders attack Tories

■ Business leaders punctured the euphoria of ministers proclaiming the end of the recession, declaring that the economy was recovering in spite of government policy not because of it, and that it could still be killed off.

In an attack reminiscent of the CBI's "bare-knuckled fight" of the eighties, the Institute of Directors' director-general said that any recovery was "more or less over the dead bodies of the Treasury and the Bank of England" ..... **Page 1**

RAF prepares to join bombing raids

■ Detailed planning for RAF aircraft to join a Nato mission bombing Serb targets was nearing completion as President Yeltsin fell into line with President Clinton and declared that the time had come for decisive measures to halt the conflict in Bosnia ..... **Pages 1, 10, 11**

Suspects described

Three IRA suspects were described in the terrorist alert flashed to all police forces by the special branch on the eve of the Bishopsgate bombing last Saturday. But police are now resisting calls to make public the detailed descriptions ..... **Page 1**

Testing time

The schools dispute intensified as teachers accused examination advisors of gross incompetence after the first geography tests for seven-year-olds were sent up to three months late ..... **Page 1**

Judgment day

Giulio Andreotti's day of judgment appeared to be dawning at last when an Italian senate committee recommended that his parliamentary immunity from prosecution be lifted so that he can face prosecution for alleged collusion with the Mafia **Page 1**

Hospital excuses

Hospitals whose patients have high death rates after general surgery offered a range of explanations for their poor showing. Dr Brian Mawhinney, the health minister, said it would be a mistake to attach great significance to any one year's figures ..... **Page 5**

Teenage crackdown

Details of tough powers to control disruptive children and offenders in local-authority care will be published today as part of the government's crack down on teenage tearaways ..... **Page 2**

Robbery alert

Robberies of banks and building societies have more than doubled since 1989, with over 1,800 last year causing long-term distress to staff victims, says a banking union ..... **Page 3**

On track

The government refused to bow to pressure to slow down its plans to privatise the railways, in spite of cross-party warnings that the programme could go wrong ..... **Page 10**

School slump

Independent schools announced the biggest slump in boarding for more than a decade as they struggled to ride out the recession ..... **Page 7**

Hotel slump

British holidaymakers are turning increasingly to self-catering and only half the four million holidays booked so far this year are in hotels ..... **Page 8**

DIY divorce

Lawyers are predicting that government curbs on legal aid will bring a flood of DIY divorces, leading to long delays for obtaining a decree and a sharp rise in court disputes ..... **Page 9**

Muted celebration

President Clinton will not celebrate his 100th day in office tomorrow. He will endure it. The White House is seeking to put the best possible spin on an occasion that it would have preferred to ignore ..... **Page 12**

Princess tells of secret despair

■ The Princess of Wales spoke of the "spiral of secret despair" felt by children suffering from eating disorders, clearly echoing her own experience of bulimia and called for greater understanding. At a conference on eating disorders, she said that illnesses such as anorexia and bulimia became a "shameful friend" to children ..... **Page 1**



Stately procession: the Queen and President Soares of Portugal arrive at Buckingham Palace for the president's state visit. Court, page 18

BUSINESS

Cautious optimism: The Confederation of British Industry added its voice to the increasing reports of economic recovery with a survey showing business confidence at its highest for ten years, although it is more cautious in signposting the end of the recession ..... **Page 21**

Property loss: Britain's largest builder, Tarmac, reported the industry's biggest ever loss, of £350 million after huge write-offs against the value of the group's property assets ..... **Pages 21, 25**

Markets: The London stock market staged a partial recovery, the FTSE 100 closing 10.4 points higher at 2832.7. Dealers said the rally was largely technical ..... **Page 24**

SPORT

Cricket: Kent, runners-up in last year's Benson and Hedges Cup, were knocked out in the preliminary round by Glamorgan, who won by 109 runs ..... **Page 38**

Rugby union: A Rugby Football Union report into allegations of financial benefits for amateur players has found substantial breaches of the rules. The abuse strikes at the amateur ethos of rugby .... **Page 36**

Tennis: The prize-money at the Wimbledon tennis championships will break £5 million for the first time. Competitors are in line for a 14 per cent pay rise, with the men's champion picking up a cheque for £305,000, £30,000 more than the women's champion ..... **Page 40**

FEATURES

Stressful life: The address to a conference on eating disorders was the first acknowledgement by the Princess of Wales that she has been a victim of bulimia ..... **Page 15**

Good, clean fun: Like a rash, poetry has broken out across New York. On an average night, the poetry punter can locate 15 performance, often combining rap, ethnic music and performance art with poems. Kate Muir ..... **Page 14**

MEDIA

Public interest: "It would silence for ever one of the few voices in the press just left of centre, even if it has been a little quavery." Charles Wintour on the *Observer*. **Page 28**

ARTS

Positive attitude: A new regime at English National Opera has announced plans for next season that defies the outgoing team's accumulated deficit of £2m ..... **Page 29**

Moscow underground: The "Marx and Engels of Moscow's arts scene" celebrate Lenin's birthday with a Red Square happening .... **Page 29**

Kafka without tears: Czech director Lida Engelova's new production of The Trial is fatally lacking in the essential sense of menace. **Page 30**

Dotty art: Video artists make many claims for their medium, but a preview of the show *Video Positive 93* in Liverpool, suggests that the technology is still more important than creative input ..... **Page 31**

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



John Barnes will be spearheading England's World Cup campaign in the qualifying match against Holland at Wembley tonight **Page 40**



Betty Boothroyd celebrated her first anniversary as Speaker with a visit to an exhibition marking the 75th anniversary of the suffragettes **Diary, page 16**



John Birt, the BBC director general, has reportedly demanded a pay increase two months after a public outcry over his tax avoidance scheme **Pages 2, 28**

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Passage from Forster

■ "The less he had to say, the more reputation he acquired". Peter Ackroyd on "ordinary" E.M. Forster

Islands in the fun

■ Why are European holiday islands looking to Majorca? Harvey Elliott on the transformation of the cheap 'n cheerful resort

Question of taste

■ *Alive*, the film of how plane-crash victims turned cannibal in order to survive, is a strangely unmoving experience, once you are past the spectacular effects of the crash itself

TV LISTINGS

The private and public lives of Devon lifeboatemen are the subject of an engrossing series, *Lifeboat* (ITV 7.00pm) ..... **Page 39**

OPINION

On the record

Douglas Hurd has thrown a shadow over the Danish referendum and over John Major's most consistent defence of his determination to ratify Maastricht, which is that Britain's word is its bond. As a form of intervention in another nation's referendum, Mr Hurd's cynical arm-twisting is little short of a disgrace ..... **Page 17**

Right to know

Hospital league tables are the necessary complement to the internal market in health which separates service providers from purchasers and aspires to give patients the rights of the consumer ..... **Page 17**

Greyfriars farewell

The peculiar English institution of boarding school continues its gradual decline. But in spite of recent hard times for fee-paying parents, the number of pupils at independent schools has gone down only slightly ..... **Page 17**

COLUMNS

SIMON JENKINS

London bombs are about publicity, they are a promotional venture to further the IRA's campaign. As in Bosnia, the cry goes up that something must be done. Like what? The most effective counter to a London bomb is self-restraint, to report it like a Belfast bomb, then ignore it. Some hope! ..... **Page 16**

THOMAS STUTTAFORD

If a surgeon is bad because he is drunk, idle, absentee or pre-senile, it is comparatively easy to replace him; but it is difficult, if not impossible, to remove somebody who is conscientious but whose patients consistently do less well than expected ..... **Page 16**

LETTERS

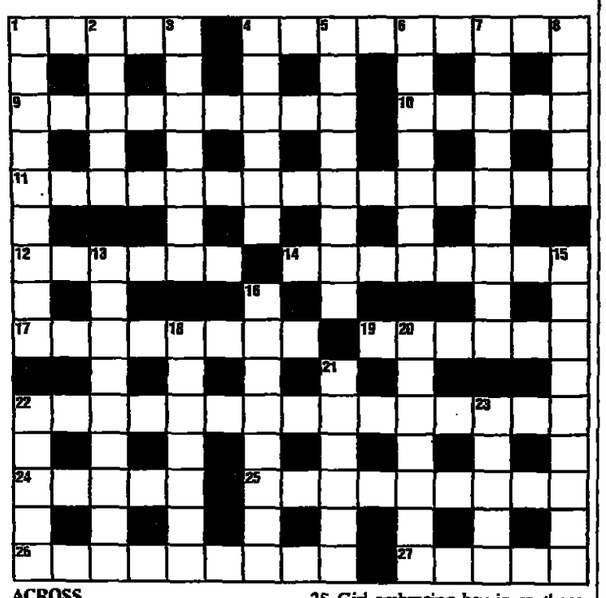
Should the City move to Docklands, where security is tighter? A reader offers a solution ..... **Page 17**

THE PAPERS

How much the Western show of support before the referendum helped Mr Yeltsin is debatable. But pledges of aid did cast him as a leader who can bring home the bacon. Now the West has to deliver on its promises, throwing its weight on the side of Russian democracy

— The New York Times

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,216



ACROSS

1 Move a little bit (5).
4 Northerners (wrongly?) frustrate king and queen, say (9).
9 Pretend to put end of foot in fire (9).
10 Don't declare half of 25's capital (5).
11 Needing motor, nearly call off this car race (5,5,5).
12 Royal line deriving from Stroud (6).
14 Express fare (4,4).
17 What comes from a bowler, perhaps, after bad shot, grabbing a wicket (4,4).
19 Small part played to make constitutional progress (4,2).
22 Awful queen associated with inane item to eat (5,10).
24 Paper produced from centre in Wapping — Times (5).
25 Girl embracing boy in southern state (9).
26 Monarch includes duck and wine in tasty spread (9).
27 Joined army at last, given the go-ahead (5).

DOWN

1 Try explosive striker for big game (4,5).
2 Refusal in university upset student organization (5).
3 Arrogance of foreign director after Hollywood opening (7).
4 Among names brought up, there's a Jack (6).
5 Finished with special plea, that's clear (8).
6 Entertainment with some music, a bar, etc. (7).
7 Spy chief and others employ forger's art (9).
8 One of the locals inhabiting Gotham? (5).
13 Frank's in the county side (9).
15 Group of players not allowed, we hear, to go after ball (5-4).
16 Tree a main log could be taken from (8).
18 Disloyalty spelling the end of lost cause (7).
20 Seeking forgiveness, little woman is going into retreat? Quite the opposite (7).
21 Writing in a certain capacity (6).
22 Young boxer, after short time, means to finish off opposition (3,2).
23 Follow some athletic events (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,215

P	A	P	E	R	T	I	G	E	R		M	A	R	S
O		A		H		G		M		K		L		U
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E		Y		D		I	E		E		G		C	
R	H	T	M	E	S	T	E	R		P	U	N	C	H
		L		I		E		O		O			A	
B	L	I	S	S		S	T	R	A	N	G	L	E	R
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D	A	V	I	D		C	A	R	Y	A	T	I	D	S
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N	E	R	O		B	R	O	K	E	N	R	E	E	D

Concise Crossword, page 40

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

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Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
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M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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WEATHER

Much of Britain will start misty, and the east coast will stay dull with patchy drizzle. Other parts should brighten, with some sunshine, especially in the north and west. There may be a few thundery showers over the Channel Islands. It will be chilly on the east coast, and a breeze over southern Britain will make it feel cooler than of late. Outlook: bright in many parts, but thundery showers will spread north, and the east will stay dull and chilly.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	24	75	f	Madrid	13	55	f
Akrotiri	19	66	s	Majorca	16	61	f
Alex'dria	20	68	s	Malaga	18	64	c
Algiers	15	59	r	Malta	20	68	s
Amst'dm	21	70	s	Melb'rne	17	63	s
Athens	22	72	s	Mexico C*	14	57	s
Bahrain	35	77	s	Miami*	28	82	s
Bangkok	35	95	s	Milan	21	70	s
Barbados*	31	88	f	Montreal*	7	45	s
Barcelna	14	57	f	Moscow	17	63	s
Beirut	20	68	s	Munich	23	73	s
Belgrade	23	73	s	Nairobi	27	81	f
Berlin	27	81	s	Naples	25	77	s
Bermuda*	23	73	f	N Delhi	38	100	s
Biarritz	15	59	f	N York*	17	63	r
Borde'x	13	55	f	Nice	19	66	f
Brussels	22	72	s	Oslo	22	72	s
Budapst	24	75	s	Paris	20	68	f
B Aires*	19	66	c	Peking	20	68	c
Cairo	30	86	s	Perth	21	70	s
Cape Tn	17	63	f	Prague	24	75	s
Chicago*	6	43	s	Reykjavik	7	45	c
Ch'church	9	48	c	Rhodes	20	68	s
Cologne	26	79	s	Rio de J	27	81	s
C'phagn	18	64	s	Riyadh	30	86	c
Corfu	23	73	s	Rome	22	72	s
Dublin	15	59	s	Salzburg	25	77	s
Dubrovnik	23	73	s	S F'isco*	16	61	s
Faro	16	61	f	Santiago*	20	68	s
Florence	28	82	s	S Paulo*	25	77	c
Frankfurt	26	79	s	Seoul	18	64	f
Funchal	17	63	c	Sing'por	31	88	f
Geneva	15	59	c	St'kholm	24	76	s
Gibraltar	19	66	s	Straslb'rg	27	81	s
Helsinki	21	70	s	Sydney	23	73	s
Hong K	25	77	f	Tangier	15	59	c
Innsbruck	25	77	s	Tenerife	19	66	c
Istanbul	17	63	s	Tokyo	25	77	s
Jeddah	31	88	s	Toronto*	5	41	f
Jo'burg*	23	73	s	Tunis	23	73	s
Karachi	35	95	s	Valencia	18	64	f
L Palmas	18	64	c	Vanc'ver*	9	48	r
La Tgust	22	72	s	Venice	22	72	s
Lisbon	14	57	f	Vienna	23	73	s
Locarno	19	66	f	Warsaw	25	77	s
London	17	63	s	Wel'ton	11	52	f
L Angels*	21	70	s	Zurich	25	77	s
Luxembg	25	77	s				
Luxor	30	86	s				

* denotes figures are latest available

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 20C (68F), min 6pm to 6am, 9C (48F). Humidity: 6pm, 41 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 8.5hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,017.6 millibars, steady. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Manchester, 19C (66F)lowest day max: Tynemouth, Tyne and Wear, and Charterhall, Borders, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Littlehampton, West Sussex, 0.67in, highest sunshine: Tiree, Strathclyde, 10.3hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 20C (68F); min 6pm to 6am, 3C (37F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.04in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 9.0hr.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 12C (54F); min 6pm to 6am, 7C (45F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 1.2hr.

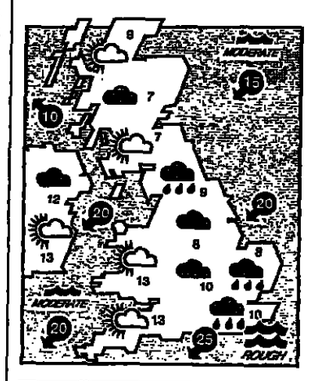
AROUND BRITAIN

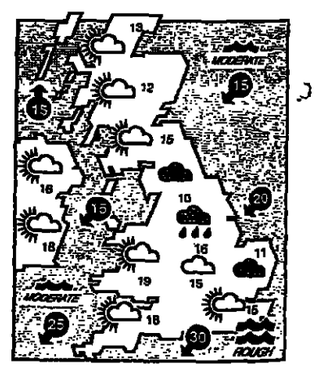
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.02	10	50	drizzle
Aviemore	-	0.02	11	52	drizzle
Belfast	2.8	0.17	14	57	bright
Birmingham	-	0.09	12	54	rain
Bognor Regis	5.6	0.62	14	57	rain
Bournemouth	2.0	0.37	14	57	rain
Bristol	0.1	0.15	11	52	dull
Buxton	8.4	-	15	59	bright
Cardiff	0.7	0.08	13	55	rain
Clacton	2.7	0.09	12	54	rain
Colwyn Bay	8.1	0.04	11	52	bright
Cromer	-	-	8	46	fog
Edinburgh	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Eskdalemuir	0.3	0.02	10	50	cloudy
Exmouth	2.3	0.36	13	55	rain
Falmouth	1.1	0.23	11	52	rain
Folkestone	5.7	0.37	15	59	rain
Guernsey	5.5	0.30	15	59	sunny
Hastings	5.6	0.54	15	59	sunny
Hurnsnton	0.1	-	8	46	dull
Isle of Man	7.2	0.03	15	59	bright
Jersey	7.2	0.41	17	63	bright
Kinloss	0.2	0.02	8	46	drizzle
Leeds	1.6	-	12	54	cloudy
Lerwick	10.0	-	10	50	sunny
Littlehampton	5.1	0.67	16	61	rain
Liverpool	7.1	0.02	15	59	bright
London	0.8	0.12	14	57	rain
Lowestoft	1.9	-	11	52	fog
Manchester	9.8	-	19	66	sunny
Margate	0.8	0.07	11	52	rain
Minehead	-	0.19	17	63	rain
Morecambe	8.6	-	16	61	sunny
Newcastle	-	0.02	8	46	drizzle
Nottingham	0.6	0.01	14	57	cloudy
Penzance	1.4	0.20	12	54	rain
Plymouth	0.5	0.13	11	52	rain
Poole	1.0	0.39	14	57	rain
Salcombe	-	0.45	11	52	rain
Sandown	3.8	0.56	12	54	sunny
Saunton Snd	1.5	0.08	12	54	cloudy
Scarborough	2.2	-	11	52	fog
Scilly Isles	1.7	0.11	11	52	rain
Shanklin	3.5	0.59	12	54	rain
Southend	-	0.15	12	54	rain
Southsea	3.3	0.51	15	59	rain
Stornoway	9.2	-	12	54	sunny
Swanage	1.1	0.56	12	54	rain
Teignmouth	0.4	0.39	12	54	rain
Tenby	6.2	0.03	16	61	drizzle
Tiree	10.3	-	11	52	sunny
Torquay	-	0.54	13	55	rain
Wick	-	-	8	46	dull
Worthing	6.0	0.57	15	59	rain

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.29	2.09
Austria Sch	18.80	17.10
Belgium Fr	54.55	50.15
Canada $	2.13	1.97
Denmark Kr	10.22	9.42
Finland Mrk	9.12	8.32
France Fr	8.90	8.20
Germany Dm	2.64	2.44
Greece Dr	355.00	330.00
Hong Kong $	12.90	11.90
Ireland Pt	1.07	0.99
Italy Lira	2415.00	2270.00
Japan Yen	192.00	173.00
Netherlands Gld	2.97	2.74
Norway Kr	11.15	10.35
Portugal Esc	242.50	224.50
South Africa Rd	5.80	5.20
Spain Pta	190.00	177.00
Sweden Kr	12.02	11.22
Switzerland Fr	2.58	2.30
Turkey Lira	15700.0	14700.0
USA $	1.685	1.555

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.





LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 8.49 pm to 5.06 am
Bristol 8.58 pm to 5.18 am
Edinburgh 8.16 pm to 5.06 am
Manchester 9.03 pm to 5.11 am
Penzance 9.07 pm to 5.34 am

Sun rises: 5.36 am — Sun sets: 8.19 pm
Moon rises 10.40 am — Moon sets 1.39 am
First quarter tomorrow

Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989: The hours of darkness are defined in these Regulations as the period between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise.

YESTERDAY

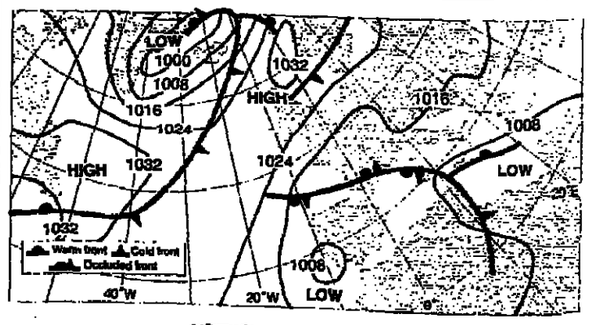
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	14	57	s	Guernsey	11	52	f
B'mingham	11	52	c	Inverness	9	48	c
Blackpool	15	59	s	Jersey	12	54	f
Bristol	13	55	r	London	17	63	s
Cardiff	13	55	f	M'nchster	17	63	s
Edinburgh	10	50	c	Newcastle	9	48	c
Glasgow	11	52	r	R'nldsway	12	54	fg

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6.32	5.7	6.47	6.4	Liverpool	3.43	8.3	4.18	8.0
Aberdeen	8.02	3.7	6.58	3.5	Lowestoft	2.11	2.1	2.16	2.2
Avonmouth	11.58	11.0			Margate	4.36	1.4	4.56	4.3
Belfast	3.47	3.3	4.19	3.0	Milford Haven	11 04	5.7	11.28	5.8
Cardiff	11.43	10.3			Newquay	9.58	5.8	10.24	5.9
Devonport	10.38	4.5	10 58	4.7	Oban	10.31	3.0	10.46	3.2
Dover	3.19	5.9	3.56	5.8	Penzance	9.46	4.5	10.06	4.7
Falmouth	10.06	4.3	10.26	4.5	Portland	11.23	1.5	11.31	1.6
Glasgow	5.22	4.5	5.56	4.0	Portsmouth	3.50	4.2	4.34	4.2
Harwich	4.24	3.6	4.41	3.5	Holyhead	2.54	4.9	3.33	4.7
Hull	10.56	8.4	11 40	6.3	Southampton	3.30	4.0	4.14	4.0
Ilfracombe	10.46	7.6	11.09	7.7	Swansea	11.13	7.9	11.37	8.0
King's Lynn	11.04	5.6	11.51	5.3	Tees	8.37	4.7	9.20	4.6
Leith	7.32	4.6	8.17	4.6	Wilton-on-Nze	4.18	3.8	4.34	3.7

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

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MEDIA 28

Why doesn't the BBC broadcast better news?



ARTS 29-31

New woman at the helm of English National Opera



SPORT 36-40

Gascoigne ready to take on the Dutch

HOMES: A BRIDGE TO FAR HORIZONS
Page 35

THE TIMES

2

WEDNESDAY APRIL 28 1993

BUSINESS TODAY

STEPPING UP

Sears

Improved results from its shoe interests helped Sears's latest annual profits rise modestly, though the year's total dividend is cut
Page 22, Tempus 25

QUICK STEPS

Norman Lamont has bluntly told the EBRD that it must be vigorous and quick in implementing cost controls
Page 22

OUT OF STEP



Mickey Mouse was not smiling as Euro Disney shares fell 38p, as the group incurred an increased interim loss
Page 23, Tempus 25

THE POUND

US $ ..... 1.5825 (-0.0107)
German mark..2.4996 (+0.0019)
Exchange index ..... 81.4 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 .....2832.7 (+10.4)
Dow Jones ...3398.91 (+0.54)*
Nikkei Avg 20206.71 (+583.08)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base..... 6%
3-month Interbank..... 6⅛-6%
US Federal Funds..... 3%*
3-month Treas Bills 2.88-2.87%*
Long Bond 6.87%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£:$	1.5777*	£:$	1.5775
$:DM	1.5801*	£:DM	2.4917
$:SWfr	1.4254*	£:SWfr	2.2448
$:Ffr	5.3335*	£:Ffr	8.4025
$:Yen	111.20*	£:Yen	175.21
£:SDR	1.1141	£:ECU	1.2819

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 352.80 ..... PM 351.40
Close 350.50-351 00
New York*
Comex 351.45-351.95*

RETAIL PRICES

RPI ..... 139.3 March (1.9%)
* Denotes midday trading price

Optimism at 10-year high declares CBI

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

■ Despite caution on the end of the recession, the latest CBI industrial trends survey shows that business confidence is showing its sharpest rise for a decade

BUSINESS confidence is growing faster than at any time during the last ten years, the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday. But the CBI's optimism was tempered by a much more cautious note on Britain's economic recovery than the government's insistence that the recession is over.

After the increase in output shown on Monday in government figures that led John Major to proclaim that the recession had ended, ministers had been hoping that the CBI quarterly industrial trends survey would back up the prime minister's message.

But while the CBI's survey struck some optimistic notes, it did not allow the confederation to herald the end of recession. Business leaders believe that after the length of the recession in Britain, industrialists are still cautious about being too optimistic too soon.

Sir David Lees, chairman of the CBI's economic affairs committee, said business was "quite properly cautious about the start of recovery". He added: "We are beginning to move out of the recession, with exports leading the way. Manufacturers expect continued growth over the next four months. However, with many of our principal export markets in Europe now moving into recession themselves, progress could be slow."

The Treasury noted that the principal findings of the survey largely supported the range of improved economic indicators, and supported the broad lines of the government's economic analysis.

The CBI's survey, of 1,300 companies, is the only one of the large-scale industrial surveys to have been carried out fully since the Budget. It found improvements in business confidence, domestic and export orders and output. However, home orders and output remain broadly flat, and though business expects to cut jobs over the next four months, the reduction will be the slowest for three years.

Among the main findings of the April trends survey was that while the volume of new orders improved in April, the number of companies recording an increase in orders against those registering a fall registered a zero balance. But a balance of 20 per cent of companies expect orders to rise over the next four months, the highest forward figure since January 1989.

Export orders rose for the first time since 1990 as the volume of orders increased from a negative balance of -11 per cent in January to a positive balance of 10 per cent in April.



Sir David: properly cautious

The survey found that over the past four months, output was also roughly flat, a balance of -1 per cent, after marked falls in the 12 preceding quarterly surveys. Again, companies expect a sharp rise in output.The CBI said its output expectation figures pointed to a 0.8 per cent rise in manufacturing output over the second quarter of this year.

Business optimism improved for the second consecutive CBI survey. The rise from a balance of 11 per cent in January to 31 per cent in April is the sharpest increase in confidence since April 1983, though the CBI acknowledged that a proportion of this increase could be due to seasonal factors, since CBI surveys tend to show a growth in confidence in spring.

The investment outlook in the survey was poor, with a balance of -8 per cent of companies expecting to cut spending on plant and machinery over the year ahead. Though capacity utilisation has improved, industrialists said that business still found investment in further capacity unnecessary at this time.

Employment fell less sharply in the first four months of 1993, though CBI figures showed a fall in manufacturing employment of 49,000 in the first quarter. That would fall by a further 30,000 over the next three months.

TIM BISHOP



Micro vision: Bill Gates, 37, founder of Microsoft, may have been the youngest at the Institute of Directors annual convention — and is certainly the highest paid. But the picture he painted of the future saw a world where computers would change from being a tool of the company to a tool of the individual (Speeches, page 22)

Record losses for Tarmac

By George Sivell
City Editor

TARMAC, the construction and building products group, said that "at last there are some signs of recovery in the British economy" and confirmed record losses for any company in the sector.

During 1992, Tarmac lost an overall £314.4 million after setting aside a massive £372 million to cover a retreat from commercial property, the fall in the value of housing land, losses on contracts, losses on businesses sold and the costs of a reorganisation. Before tax, Tarmac lost £350 million, against a profit of £21 million.

However, the company is maintaining the dividend at 5.5p and the shares rose rose 8p to 141p. Neville Simms, the chief executive, said: "While trading in the first half of 1993 continues to be difficult there are, at last, some signs of recovery in the British economy and the group's particular markets."

Quarry products fell from operating profits of £42.8 million to £29.6 million in 1992, housing fell from £56.4 milion to £38.6 million, construction fell from £39.7 million to £22.7 million, building materials went into a £2.9 million loss, industrial products fell from £12.5 milion to £4.8 million and Tarmac America improved from losses of $11.8 million to $6 million.

Tempus, page 25
Tarmac's black hole, page 25

Branson challenges BA chiefs

By Derek Harris

SIR Colin Marshall and Robert Ayling, the British Airways' chiefs, should either sue or "consider their positions" after Granada's *World in Action* TV programme allegations about aspects of the BA dirty tricks campaign against Richard Branson's Virgin group.

This reaction came yesterday from Mr Branson as he broke off from addressing the Institute of Directors' annual convention at London's Albert Hall. Sir Colin and Mr Ayling were alleged by *World in Action* to be involved in authorising key aspects of the dirty tricks campaign.

Mr Branson, who is planning further consequential writs within two weeks in either the American or British courts, said he was surprised that there had been no writs issued against Granada already by the BA camp.

Mr Branson said: "Either British Airways should issue writs against *World in Action* on the grounds it had the facts wrong or the board should question senior directors of BA and consider their positions."

Equally, he added, Sir Colin and Mr Ayling should either test the accuracy of the programme's allegations in court or "consider their positions".

Asked if he thought the programme had been accurate, Mr Branson said: "From everything I know, I could not in any way question anything that was said." If the programme was right, the dirty tricks campaign had been a "catalogue of disasters from beginning to end", Mr Branson said.

British Airways was suffering from the aftermath of the dirty tricks campaign, Mr Branson said. Virgin had seen an 18 per cent rise in passenger load factors which, he believed, had come mainly from regular BA passengers deciding to switch.

BA said last night: "We have no comment to make on the programme and, if sued, we will deal with the matter in court."It is believed that BA will ignore the *World in Action* programme.

Speeches, page 22
City Diary, page 25

In the market for market-maker

By Melinda Wittstock

WANTED: An energetic, youthful and "emotionally stable" chief executive equipped with "a wide range of leadership, management and interpersonal skills to overcome what has clearly been a difficult time for the London Stock Exchange".

Still struggling to restore its credibility since the demise last month of Taurus, the paperless trading project, the Exchange has hired Heidrick & Struggles, the City headhunters, to find a replacement for Peter Rawlins.

But the headhunters face an uphill battle to find a suitable candidate. Few in the City expect it will find the right person until the future of Andrew Hugh Smith, its chairman, becomes clear.

Most stockbroking firms now expect he will resign soon after the new chief executive is found.

A confidential job description obtained by *The Times* says the new chief must "share responsibility for the future strategic direction of the Stock Exchange with the chairman".

The nine-page document says the lucky man or woman must have been a chief executive or general manager of a financial services institution who has demonstrated "overall success" and a "clear impact'.

Ideally aged between 40 and 55, the new chief must also be "a team player who enjoys being a leader".

Some names put forward by senior City wags are impressive: David Walker, deputy chairman at Lloyds Bank; Michael Kerr-Dineen, managing director of Credit Lyonnais Laing; Bob Benton, James Capel's new chief executive; and Peter Bennett, who set up SEAQ and Talisman.

Business As Usual

Today we have returned to our offices at the corner of Bishopsgate and Camomile Street.

We apologise for any disruption to our services following the weekend's events in the City of London.

Many thanks to all our friends throughout the City and elsewhere for their generosity in providing space and other support.

Norton Rose

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Enjoy directors day, it does you good



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Yesterday was directors day, when the members of the Institute of Directors gather together at a single national event to hear distinguished speakers and send their message to the world. Vital as most delegates are to their own respective businesses, I doubt if much harm was done by the bosses' day out, especially if they enjoyed it. If only the institute agreed.

Only last month Peter Morgan, its lively director general was busy lobbying the government against national days and the institute will already have drawn satisfaction that this weekend's May bank holiday will be among the last. According to the IoD, traditional bank holidays are out of date, and should be abolished as a restraint of trade. Instead, individual companies would replace the eight bank holidays other than Christmas day and Boxing day with holidays of their own to suit production schedules. Sounds like a great boost to family life.

The government does not go so far. The May holiday was a particular *bête noire* because it was seen as an echo of the Communist May Day, which has since become obsolete, rather than Britain's traditional maypoles and morris dancing, which were thought to be obsolete but have been magically revived since the bank holiday started in the seventies. Scared of bring a tagged a killjoy, the government, in the person of Gillian Shephard, wants a new bank holiday in the dreary days of autumn which may or may not be called Trafalgar day, but whose main supposed virtue is that there are not many holidays then. It is hard to imagine anything more dull-minded or so lacking in grasp of the values of people and community and the value that has to an advanced mature economy.

The institute has a point, even though its conclusion is silly. Apart from the ghastly August bank holiday, famous for its traffic jams, most of the holidays have been divorced from their original meaning by being moved to the nearest convenient Monday, partly to avoid disrupting business. Once they have become simply days off, an occasional long weekend, they serve little purpose and might just as well be handed over to the mercies of modern Mr Gradgrinds. The idea that proper national holidays damage the economy is, however, only arithmetically true, rather like the idea that low wages are essential to people's long-term prosperity. Germany, especially in the South, has far more bank holidays than Britain. Even in Japan, where salarymen are notorious for not taking their personal holidays, there are almost 20 annual national holidays when people celebrate together, whether by picnicking among the cherry blossom, organising cultural events or gathering in families.

Japan's economy seems to survive such frivolous excesses. Rather, meaningful national days make people more confident and relaxed, building that famous Japanese teamwork in industry. The German experience also shows that holidays, high wages and short hours need not be ruinous. It is the quality of work that counts. Germans are forever nervous that they have taken things too far and that factories will desert to places where people work longer, earn less and generally fulfil the accountant's dream of a labour force.

Yet the Rhineland continues to forge ahead of Britain. In Singapore, where holidays help knit together a country with few national traditions, Lee Kuan Yew tried to make the island the Switzerland of Asia by discouraging investment in cheap labour industries. He pushed artificially and too fast, but the idea was right.

Let us hope the dull policymakers of Britain think again. If we want an autumn holiday, it could be on All Saints day or Armistice day, both much favoured on the continent, or the more traditional Michaelmas or Martinmas. There are many things we could celebrate, from peace to the harvest. Yet the government actually wants its new holiday to be meaningless. If Trafalgar day were to have any meaning, it would merely be to cock a snook at the French, as some pathetic kind of compensation for the humiliations heaped on us from Brussels. So it will not. We need to celebrate and build national confidence. If nothing better, we might celebrate business with a national enterprise day.

INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL CONVENTION

Industry attacks poor judgment of government

THE government's economic policies, strategy, organisation and vision were sharply criticised yesterday by Sir Alistair Grant, chairman and chief executive of Argyll Group.

Sir Alistair's speech to the annual convention of the Institute of Directors, at the Albert Hall in London, delivered a warning from business to the government that despite more positive signs in the economy it had to improve massively its overall performance. His message was made all the more poignant by his declaration that he was a "wholehearted and convinced Tory" who insisted that one of his conditions for recovery was that Britain should have a Conservative government.

He maintained that the Conservatives had made "fundamental errors of judgment: in their recent conduct of the economy, putting too strong a foot on the economic accelerator in the late 1980s and too savage a foot on the brakes in the early 1990s".

Sir Alistair said business was asking for "no more than the appropriate level of competence in government" when it sought from the prime minister that he should create a vision of Britain in the 21st century, assemble a government team competent to do its job, provide stable conditions to allow business to operate and "articulate the themes of his basic policies in language that sufficiently inspires us to go forward with him towards long-term prosperity."

Britain relied on leadership and vision from the top he said, adding: "It is late, but not too late, for John Major to begin to make the right moves." The government needed to seek advice, possibly from business, on how to direct and manage its responsibilities, replacing the 19th-century structures of government, bringing in people trained and able to tackle the problems of the next century.

Sir Alistair said that, since the mid-1980s, the government had "used the slogans of free enterprise and the free market as an excuse for the government's failure to think through fundamental questions of economic or industrial policy", as shown by the muddle of the Channel tunnel and over coal.

If Britain adopted "an evangelistic, even messianic commitment to certain 'free-market' dogmas, we put our own industries at a disadvantage" to European rivals, who were less dogmatic and more realistic, Sir Alistair said. He attacked the "long period of seemingly pointless attrition" of recent economic policy, suggesting that senior ministers should have "retired" when Britain came out of the exchange-rate mechanism last September.

Instead, ministers were now suggesting that the new sterling exchange rate and lower interest rates were somehow the result of policy. Even now, he said, as the economy hesitantly recovered, "it is implied we should be grateful."

His message was reinforced by Peter Morgan the IoD's director-general, who told the 3,000 delegates at the convention that a new vision of a successful Britain was needed and politicians must pursue policies that would make that a reality.

The United Kingdom has fallen to the bottom of the third division among the world's leading economies, Mr Morgan said, ranking 18th in a league table of 24 nations in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

But, he added, the British were "talented, creative, civilised, smart. For too long, we have been victims of our past. Now we need the vision to be masters of our future. And our politicians must share that vision". With vision, Britain could make a comeback, he predicted, adding: "We must aim to knock Italy out of the second division and then compete with France for promotion to the first."

Renewing his call for the privatisation of the Bank of England, Mr Morgan said proper control of inflation was imperative if Britain were to regain its economic place in the world.

Opening the convention, Lord Young of Graffham, the former trade secretary and new IoD president, urged British business to be vigilant of its competitiveness during this fragile period in which economic recovery appeared to be under way. "The patient is still in intensive care. No sudden shocks, please, no swings of policy. It is stability we ask for, stability at the present level of inflation, keeping interest rates as low as we can consistent with exchange rate stability," Lord Young urged.

ECONOMY

TIM BISHOP



Masters of our own future: Peter Morgan, IoD director-general, called on ministers to share a new vision of Britain

Technical leaps will transform way of life

THE "wallet computer" will start to transform the way people live and work within 15 years, Bill Gates, the computer billionaire, forecasts.

Backed by a giant computer display, the chairman and chief executive of Microsoft, the world's biggest computer software company, demonstrated how technical innovation would enable consumers to select broadcast entertainment and access supporting information at the touch of a button.

Mr Gates, 37, said computers were poised to transform the way we live in a manner we can scarcely yet imagine. "The information age will really take place within the next decade and will transform the economy as much as the industrial age."

Until now, computers had been the tools of companies. Now, they would become the tool of the individual. "Virtually everyone in ten or 15 years time will be able to carry around a wallet pc [personal computer]," he said. These computers would be able to receive messages and news bulletins, filtering out items of interest to the computer's owner. Computers would learn to recognise speech and handwriting. Keyboards would become secondary.

Computing power should not be seen as a threat, but as a way to empower ordinary people, he said. Just as they transformed the use of entertainment media, computers would transform the way people worked. "The changes, which will be brought by these changes, are hard to predict," he said. "Creativity and cleverness will find an outlet."

Linking computers with telephone systems and television transmissions would also impact the world of politics. Television viewers would be able to transmit their opinions back to the broadcast studios almost instantaneously in response to programmes.

Individuals and companies would be obliged to adapt. Jobs would be lost as big companies were forced to slim down, though smaller companies would rise to take their place. "I do believe this is the path forward to prosperity," he said.

COMPUTERS

Branson shows way to succeed

RICHARD Branson, the Virgin Group chairman, rounded off the convention with a flamboyant speech giving a guide to becoming a millionaire by, among other avenues, keeping to the philosophy that small is beautiful.

On the way he took a few sideswipes, notably at the lack of competitiveness in the airline industry. Mr Branson, who is locked in legal combat with British Airways over BA's dirty tricks campaign, joked that one way to become a millionaire was to start out as a billionaire and then go into the airline business.

He also hit out at some contemporary industrial beliefs, notably the effects of the way the British wallow in tradition. Good as that might be for tourism and airlines, it had no place in industry. Mr Branson said: "The fact that some people have supplied a particular line of products for years is not an indication of excellence. It is much more likely an indication of neglect." Situations like that were a challenge: the opportunity for doing something new. That was why Virgin Group, for example, experimented endlessly with new products, new methods, new companies and new marketing, he said.

"We need to start putting more effort into building new business enterprises than into propping up and protecting crumbling, obsolete companies." He was caustic about government declarations on determination to improve airline competition. He said: "The policy is fine in theory, but in practise the record has been disastrous. To lose Laker Airways alone may have been a misfortune, but to lose Laker and British Caledonian and Air Europe and British Island Airways and Dan-Air suggests that somebody is being very careless indeed."

The government had taken some actions to improve competition, he admitted, and it had claimed to have liberalised air services within the EC. Mr Branson said: "Unfortunately you cannot forever run an industry to be a little bit competitive any more than you can be a little bit pregnant. It is all or nothing. No one can sit back on their pro-competitive laurels until all the barriers to competition have been removed." He retained much of his passion for the Branson version of the small is beautiful philosophy. He highlighted Virgin Records, which instead of being a single international operation had been developed as a series of self-contained operations run by their own management and staff, numbering currently more than 50 organisations.

AIRLINES

Diversity destroys myth of the mighty media mogul

MEDIA barons such as Rupert Murdoch, chairman of The News Corporation, will be "powerless" in the next century because of the spread of information and the primacy of the consumer, Mr Murdoch's principal UK manager said yesterday.

In a speech to the IoD conference that was notably upbeat about the UK media industry, Andrew Knight, executive chairman of News International, publisher of *The Times*, said that Britain was "brilliantly" placed to be at the forefront of the new information revolution that would "sweep away most of the legal and institutional arrangements that have been built up over many years."

Speaking in place of Mr Murdoch, who had been forced to pull out of the conference because of international commitments, Mr Knight painted a positive picture of the strength and importance of the expanding UK media industry, which offered increasing and near-unlimited choice.

The expansion of choice would put the customer in the driving seat, and Mr Knight said to media customers: "When choice and medium are multiplying at such an impossible pace, nobody can or could dominate what you read or see." He insisted people should "get over our hang-ups about who owns what." The future media landscape meant that the perception — "and it is only a perception, not a fact" — of the mighty media mogul would belong to the past.

While large companies would inevitably be in the vanguard of change, Mr Knight said that the days of a newspaper proprietor attempting to run the country through the pages of a newspaper were long gone, and would never return. He said: "Modern life is too anarchic, rich, unconformist and wild for a Beaverbrook, a Northcliffe or a Murdoch to dominate anything. The powerlessness of the media baron will be a 'given' in the 21st century: it will be a product of his own commercial success."

News International, he said, had pioneered media choice in Britain, and in doing so, had "bred and multiplied our own competition."

He paid tribute to the government's "visionary" deregulation policies, including the 1990 Broadcasting Act, but criticised politicians who "from the comfort of their green leathered benches" in the Commons called for industry to be competitive and creative, to provide investment and jobs and to embrace technology and change — and then refused to recognise that the £35 billion UK media industry was doing just that.

Praising a range of the UK media, including non-NI products such as Reuters, the BBC and the *Financial Times*, as well as NI publications, such as *The Sun* and *The Sunday Times*, Mr Knight said that nobody would be the sole provider of media in the future, because the "thinking, articulate, emancipated viewer is the only king, in his or her soverign, individualist millions."

Britain was brilliantly poised to take advantage of the information revolution because of the importance of the English language to a wide range of world developments and because of its enterprise and innovation. But he said that spirit had been lost since the early 1980s, and now needed to be recaptured by throwing off the "pervasive mood" of defeatism and accepting "with fire in our hearts" the opportunities ahead.

PRESS AND TELEVISION

Convention reports by Philip Bassett, Ross Tieman and Derek Harris

Lamont urges cost control at the EBRD

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

NORMAN Lamont, the Chancellor and the British governor of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, has told the bank it must implement promised cost control measures quickly and vigorously.

Mr Lamont, speaking on the closing day of the bank's annual meeting in Westminster, repeated John Major's criticism of Jacques Attali, the EBRD president and his directors, calling for the bank to use taxpayers' money as cost effectively as possible.

The bank has come under attack from some delegates for its lack of cost control, but Mr Lamont said he welcomed the changes the EBRD board had agreed to improve the running of the bank. "These changes have to be implemented quickly," he said.

Britain, as host country, provided £40 million towards establishing the EBRD offices. Mr Lamont, who is expected to press for greater cost efficiencies at the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund at their Washington meetings this week, said the government was "very pleased" to have the EBRD in London. But he said Britain shared the concerns of other shareholders that an institution designed to promote efficiency and enterprise in eastern and central Europe must be properly managed.

Mr Lamont urged western backers of the EBRD to improve trade relations across Europe, which, he said, would require much greater efforts than the agreements so far on freer trade.

The EBRD should stick to its job and try to start to show a profit by 1995, Henning Christophersen, vice-president of the European Commission, said. Mr Christophersen, the EC representative on the EBRD governors' committee, delivered a strong warning to M Attali. "If the bank is to carry out its mandate correctly, it will need to inspire confidence in a wider public.

The EBRD, which has been under a barrage of criticism for the past fortnight over its high spending on its London offices and staff, and low level of disbursement in eastern and central Europe, posted a net loss of 6.1 million ecu (£4.7 million). Brussels' concern about the level of disbursement by the two-year-old bank, and by its difficulties in finding suitable private sector projects to invest in, prompted Mr Christophersen's attack.

He underlined that the EC wants the EBRD to stick to its mandate of allowing no more than 40 per cent of its activity to be in the public sector. "We placed the highest importance on the bank's mission to finance private business investment and respect the founding agreement."

Ivan Kocarnik, the Czech finance minister, voiced disappointment over the small contribution the EBRD had made to the Czech economy. While direct investment in the republic last year was $1.1 billion, he said the EBRD provided only $50 million.



Hands on: Liam Strong of Sears brought in profits at the top end of expectations

Shoes step up profit at Sears

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

SEARS, the Selfridges-to-Dolcis retail conglomerate, managed a modest advance in full-year profits, at the top end of expectations, thanks to a turnround at its British Shoe Corporation subsidiary.

Liam Strong, who was appointed chief executive at the beginning of last year, reported pre-tax profit of £83.5 million for the year ended January 31, up from £81.2 million. Mr Strong said the group had made a "decent start" to his planned three-year recovery programme.

Trading profits from continuing operations were up 11.8 per cent to £107.2 million as a result of tighter cost control. Overall, the group made a loss after tax of £48.9 million, after £112 million of extraordinary items relating to the disposal of its menswear and housebuilding businesses.

The final dividend was cut from 3.83p to 2.5p, as indicated at the interim stage, giving a total of 3.5p for the year against 5.355p. Net debt fell by £59 million to £47 million, reducing gearing to 4.3 per cent.

The dramatic turnround at British Shoe, which saw trading profits rise 150 per cent to £23.3 million, despite the closure of 172 outlets, was achieved by "better styling, better sourcing and better running of logistics", said Mr Strong. He believes there is scope for further improvement, given that trading margins are still only 4.3 per cent.

Trading profit at the mail order division fell from £29.9 million to £23.2 million due to a £6.9 million loss from ter Meulen Post, the Dutch business acquired just before Mr Strong joined the group. Selfridges, which Mr Strong insisted was not up for sale, posted a 4 per cent increase in profit to £16.9 million.

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Battered NatWest sees an end to recession

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

LORD Alexander, chairman of National Westminster Bank, yesterday praised staff, suppliers and friends throughout the business world who have helped the bank to carry out its work as usual.

NatWest Tower, where the bank had been due to hold its annual meeting yesterday, was one of the buildings worst affected by Saturday's IRA bomb attack.

Lord Alexander told shareholders — at the new Chiswell Street Brewery venue — that the help received by NatWest "reflects the determination of the City of London as Europe's most important financial centre to continue to provide the services that are so vital to the economy".

He also told shareholders that the bank has seen signs that the recession is over.

"The early months of this year have seen some continuing and steady improvement," he said. "It is too early to be dogmatic, but our experience so far this year suggests we are over the worst so far as UK bad debts are concerned.

"Our income is growing in some areas, notably in NatWest Markets, but loan demand at present remains subdued. This may well continue for some time and inhibit the scope for income growth. A good deal must clearly depend on the strength of the economic recovery in this country."

Lord Alexander rejected criticism over the high level of remuneration of NatWest directors, and also hinted at the need to introduce charges on personal current accounts.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

DTI aims to ease audit burden on sole traders

MORE than 250,000 sole traders are set to benefit from the Department of Trade and Industry's latest deregulation initiative. In an attempt to alleviate the burden of audit costs on small businesses, the DTI is proposing either to abolish the audit requirement or to replace the audit report with a less costly "compilation" report.

The proposals apply to companies with annual turnovers below the VAT threshold, currently £37,600, and gross assets of less than £100,000. Neil Hamilton, minister for corporate affairs, said the companies currently pay between £500 and £1,000 in audit fees, which is a "big chunk out of profits".

Hope for MCC creditors

MARK Homan of Price Waterhouse, senior joint administrator to Maxwell Communication Corporation, is to apply to the High Court for approval to call a creditors' meeting in London on July 1. The move follows approval by Tina Brozman, the US Bankruptcy Court judge, of the disclosure statement filed in MCC's American Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings. Creditors at the meeting will be asked to vote on a scheme of arrangement after receiving full financial details. Claims are therefore on track to be resolved by the last quarter of this year, Mr Homan said.

BAe upbeat on Rover

JOHN Cahill, chairman of British Aerospace, said the company's Rover car division could start making profits in 1993. A combination of favourable exchange rates, cost cuts and product range development "provides a basis for Rover to move through its break-even point in 1993", he told shareholders at the company's annual meeting. Recovery in the British market would help Rover disproportionately, as Britain remains by far the company's most important market, he said. BAe shares jumped 8p before slipping back slightly to end with a 6p gain at 322p.

Bryant seeks £18m

BRYANT Group, the Midlands housebuilder, is raising £18 million in a share placing to fund its land acquisition programme. Colin Hope, Bryant's chairman, said there was an encouraging revival in house buying confidence, and net reservations since December 1 were more than 30 per cent ahead of the previous year. The company is issuing 13 million ordinary shares at 137.5p, a 4½p discount to the market price. Bryant aims to expand its housebuilding programme from a forecast 2,600 homes for the current financial year to 3,000 in the period ending May 30, 1994.

هكذا من الأصل

IMF seeks action as world growth prospects shrink

BY JANET BUSH IN LONDON AND WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

■ As economic leaders meet this week amid concern about flagging growth, Europe is seen as a black spot and Britain is warned on its deficit

THE sluggishness of the world economy will dominate the agenda in Washington this week of the Group of Seven industrialised nations and the International Monetary Fund. Their meetings will be held against the background of worsening forecasts for growth this year.

The IMF is predicting world growth of only 2.2 per cent this year and growth of only 1.7 per cent for the seven leading industrialised nations, about half the levels it predicted six months ago. It attributed the worsening of its view to the slowdown in Europe — with the European Community growing by a marginal 0.1 per cent this year — and to the failure by governments — among them Britain's — to tackle rising budget deficits.

In its twice-yearly report on the world economy, the IMF urges Britain to cut its budget deficit, claiming that the recovery depended "critically on the adoption of further measures, in the 1994 budget or even before, to secure a faster reduction of the large budget deficit". It urged higher taxes and cuts in public spending.

Treasury officials are understood to believe that the budget and the current sweeping review of government spending have gone some way to addressing such concerns. They did not believe Britain would come under any overt pressure from its G7 partners to take further action.

The IMF also urged Britain to resist cutting interest rates any further as this would risk a resurgence in inflation, particularly after a substantial decline in the value of sterling.

European monetary officials said that, although the development of the world economy was of great concern, they felt that individual countries had taken useful steps since the last G7 meeting in London in February. However, there remain some worries. The IMF urged Germany to take a lead in "a concerted move to "a further, significant and progressive reduction in interest rates".

Germany's Solidarity Pact is noted as a positive contribution, with the aim of reducing the budget deficit. European monetary officials also welcomed Japan's Y13 trillion stimulative package but questioned how much of this money is actually new rather than repackaged old spending. "Given the Japanese track record, there is a certain scepticism about what these fiscal packages add up to," one official remarked.

There is general satisfaction with the budget cutting package announced by the Clinton administration in America but some concern about whether the package will get through Congress unscathed.

McKechnie bids for Savage

BY CARL MORTISHED

MCKECHNIE, the plastic and metal components maker, is looking into the housing market recovery with a £47 million bid for Savage Group, the DIY products group. The offer is backed by the board of Savage. McKechnie also revealed a 2 per cent rise in pre-tax profit to £10.8 million for the half year to end-January.

Vanni Treves, chairman of McKechnie, said Savage's products were an excellent fit with McKechnie's consumer products businesses. "We believe that there will be no earnings dilution in the first full financial year," he said.

Savage investors are being offered four McKechnie shares for every 21 Savage, putting a value of 80p on Savage, a rise of 67 per cent over the pre-bid price of 48p. A full cash alternative is being offered at 73.33p. Savage shares rose to 77p.

Savage, quoted on the USM, expanded rapidly in the 1980s on the back of the housing market boom and bought businesses on the Continent. Its profits peaked in 1988-9 at just over £7 million but 1991 brought a loss. A programme of cost-cuttings and disposals of European businesses helped Savage to return to the black in the year to end-June last year, with pre-tax profits of £2.2 million on sales of £70 million.

McKechnie had been tipped for an acquisition in Europe but the company says the time is not right.

Its sales in the interim period were up by £1 million to £140.8 million and profit before interest improved by 7 per cent to £1.1 million. UK profits declined due to a £300,000 charge for redundancies. Earnings per share rose ½p to 9.5p. The interim dividend stays at 5p.

Monster loss looms for Disney



Giant cash call: Euro Disneyland shareholders may soon face a rights issue

BY SARAH BAGNALL

MICKEY Mouse is on the scrounge. The Euro Disneyland theme park near Paris is facing a big loss this year and looks likely to need a further source of finance if the huge development programme is to be completed.

Yesterday's results from the company saw a further plunge into the red, a net loss of Fr1.1 billion for the six months to end-March, knocking 38p off the shares in London to 895p, well below the level they enjoyed before its highly publicised opening last April.

The company warned shareholders that due to the losses and its high level of fixed costs there would be a "substantial loss" for the full year. There was a net cash outflow of Fr1.5 billion during the six-month period.

Shareholders face a likely rights issue as the company explores ways of raising new funds to finance capital expenditure, including the Phase 2 development, a film studio theme park.

Nigel Reed, leisure analyst at Paribas Capital Markets, said that the company needs funding of Fr9 billion-plus for its future developments and more equity capital to reduce its gearing. At the interim stage, Euro Disney had long-term borrowings of Fr20 billion and gearing of about 350 per cent.

Euro Disney is still going ahead with its plans for its Phase 2 development, expected to cost Fr8 billion to Fr9billion and seen as key to the company's future. Over the next 18 months, the company also needs Fr1 billion to finance the creation of the smaller attractions, including a new ferris wheel, roller-coaster rides, steam train and another stop on the railway. The existing attractions pulled in 3.3 visitors in the six traditionally slack winter months, compared with 6.8 million in the previous period. Hotel occupancy was 37 per cent.

Attempts to smooth out the seasonality of revenues have been made with a new pricing policy.

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Leeds dips £5m as debt cover doubles

BY LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR

THE first half pre-tax profits of Leeds Permanent Building Society slipped by almost £5 million to £90.2 million after the fifth largest society more than doubled its provisions for bad and doubtful debts.

In the six months ending March 31, the building society set aside £84.1 million compared with £40.8 million for the same period last year. A further £17.6 million of irrecoverable interest was written off.

The provisions for the first half were only £5 million up on the second half of last year, suggesting that losses have stabilised.

The Leeds is the first of the major societies to produce interim figures because its year end is three months earlier than most of its competitors.

While its results will be encouraging, the Leeds has a lower exposure to the South East than many of the other large building societies.

Nationwide, the second largest society, with a year end of April 5, is expected to unveil lower profits for the year when it reports in early June.

Operating profits at the Leeds were up 28.3 per cent in the first half to £174.3 million, an all-time record for the society.

"This is a considerable achievement when considered in the context of the depressed housing market and high unemployment," said Malcolm Barr, the society's chairman.

Assets increased by 5.7 per cent to £19.4 billion and the society's total assets ratio rose to 4.73 per cent from 4.67 per cent.

The Leeds lost its chief executive in February when Mike Blackburn was selected by the Halifax Building Society to become its chief executive from August.

Roger Boyes, finance director, is acting chief executive and no permanent appointment is imminent, a spokesman for the Leeds said.

BUSINESS first

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Waterford Foods sales rise 30%

Waterford Foods, the Irish dairy products group, raised sales in 1992 by 30 per cent to Ir£551 million (£540 million), with a five months' contribution from Express Foods Northern Ireland.

Pre-tax profits rose from Ir£15.9 million to Ir£20.4 million, with earnings per share rising 8 per cent to 10.04p.

Borrowings were Ir£106 million at the year end, representing gearing of 78 per cent and reflecting the cost of recent acquisitions and capital investment in new plant. The total dividend for the year is 2.73p for both A and B shares.

Howden deal

Howden Group has agreed *with Ampco Pittsburgh Corporation* to pay $34.25 million for the fan and air handling business of the Buffalo *Forge Group* based in New York State. It is the Scottish engineer's second American acquisition this year.

Profits flow

Bournemouth Water has advanced pre-tax profits from £3.42 *million to £4.75 million* in the year to end-December and is paying an 86p dividend. West Hampshire Water has risen from £1.22 million to £1.29 million and is making a 36p payout.

Forte bond

Forte, the hotel group, has increased the size of its convertible bond due 2008 by £5 *million to £90 million and set* the coupon at a semi-annual 6¾ per cent, UBS, the lead manager, said.

STOCK MARKET

Dealers start Zeneca grey market

THE proposed demerger of **Zeneca** from ICI and its £1.3 billion rights issue are still more than a month away, but dealers have already started brisk trade in the new company's shares on the grey market.

In its new form, Salomon Brothers, *the New York-based* securities house, was quoting Zeneca shares virtually unchanged at 705p last night, *while the slimmed-down ICI* was priced at 525p. That compares with the underlying and pre-demerged ICI price of *£12.34, down 3p, where fewer* than 2 million shares changed hands.

Salomon reported brisk two-way trade in the *shares of* the new company, with institutional investors showing keen interest.

The rest of the equity market recovered from an early markdown as share prices staged something of a technical rally *following the losses of the past* few days. Fund managers are still on the look-out for bargains among leading shares, *especially those issues* which have been left behind. But the continued absence of sellers and stock shortages among market-makers mean that trading conditions remain thin. By the close of business last night fewer than 600 million shares had been traded.

But the FT-SE 100 index was able to reverse an initial 10-point fall to end the day *10.4 higher at 2,832.7.*

It was a better session for international companies, as the pound came in for profit-*taking in the wake of its strong* gains against the dollar. The big dollar earners have been pressured in recent weeks, *worried about the impact on* profits of currency fluctuations. There were gains for **Reuters**, 8p to £12.66, ***Courtaulds**, 5p to 557p*, **Glaxo**, 18p to 594p, **Grand Metropolitan**, 4p to 424p, and **Allied-Lyons**, 6p to 587p.

Boots, the chemist, rallied 5p to 469p in the wake of Monday's shake-out that greeted news that the company was urging doctors to cut the dosage of Manoplax, its *heart failure drug, following* tests. Analysts wasted little time yesterday in downgrading their profit forecasts *for the current year* as they reassessed the impact on profits.

Nick Bubb, at Morgan Stanley, has cut his forecast for *1993/94 by £12 million to* £455 million. For the year just ended he is forecasting £400 million. That compares with *the £368 million* the group made last year. It had been hoped that Maoplax would soon be offsetting the heavy marketing costs incurred launching the drug.

Profit-taking took its toll of takeover favourite **United Biscuits** as the price fell 10p to 418p on sharply reduced turnover of 3.8 million shares. Earlier this week, heavy business in the traded options market had been accompanied by talk of a bid from either **Cadbury Schweppes**, 3p better at 474p, or **Hanson**, 1½p better at 236½p.

Tarmac, the housebuilder and building products group, rose 7p to 141p despite plung-*ing into the red with a loss of* £350 million, against a profit last time of £21 million. The figure was struck after exceptional charges of £372 million, which had already been widely anticipated.

But **Sears**, the stores group, fell 3p to 104p despite better than expected trading news. **Shanks & McEwan**, the waste disposal group, fell 4p to 196p as a large line of stock went through the market. Smith New Court, the broker, placed a total of 8.5 million shares with various institutions at 186p. The shares are thought to have belonged to Arthur Lee, who headed Rechem, a company bought by Shanks & McEwan in 1991.

Commercial Union fell 16p to 592p in the wake of Saturday's Bishopsgate blast on suggestions that the group will have to take the cost of the latest damage to its headquarters on the chin.

Talk in the Square Mile claims that the group failed to take out re-insurance on policies prior to 1993 covering terrorists attacks. The rest of the insurers closed *mostly* mixed, unruffled by the cost of the repair work. **General Accident** eased 3p to 561p, while **Royal Insurance** lost an early lead to finish 1p lighter at 325p. There were gains for **Guardian Royal Exchange**, up 5p at 184p and **Sun Alliance**, 2p firmer at 327p.

Tiphook, the trailer and container rental group, dipped below the £3 level with *a fall of 22p to 293p as brokers* became concerned by comparisons with GPA, the troubled aircraft leasing business. But a spokesperson for Tiphook emphasised there was a vast difference between leasing an aircraft and renting a container. Tiphook did admit it stands to lose almost £3 million on its investment in rival TIP Europe, should the agreed bid from General Electric of America of 42p a share go through. A spokesperson said: "This is not significant in terms of our profits".

Meanwhile, **Stagecoach**, the independent coach operator, made an impressive start in first time dealings. Offered at 112p, the shares closed at a high for the day of 124p, a premium of 12p.

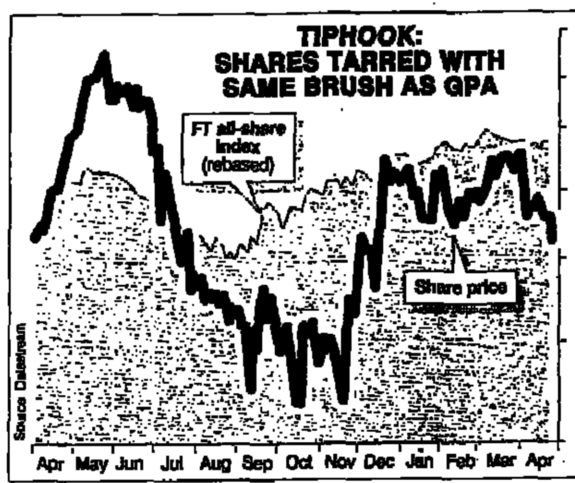
The water companies were marked lower at the outset, but managed to close above their worst of the day.

The insistence of the government that the economic recovery is finally underway has succeeded in attracting attention out of defensive areas such as utilities and into cyclicals. There were losses for **North West**, 7p to 489p, ***Severn Trent**, 5p to 489p*, **Southern**, 5p to 510p, **South West**, 10p to 517p, **Thames**, 7p to 510p, **Welsh**, 5p to *568p, **Wessex**, 8p to 615p*, and **Yorkshire**, 9p to 546p. But some brokers continue to take the view that water shares remain cheap on the basis of dividend yields.

Hartstone, the leather products and hosiery group, **slumped 9p to a new low of 100p, leading to suggestions that the group is leaving itself open to a possible bid. Strange as it may sound, talk in the Square Mile is suggesting that Sara Lee Corporation, the US food retailer, has taken a look at the company.**

British Vita, the polymers group, rose 4p to 227p amid signs of a revival in institutional buying. Pre-tax profits this year are expected to drop from £54 million to between £45 million and £49 million. But Bob McGee, the chairman, has given presentations to brokers and made a favourable impression.

MICHAEL CLARK



WORLD MARKETS

US blue chips struggle to earn a plus sign

New York — US blue chips struggled in a tight range at mid-day as positive economic news and good performances by drug and bank shares still failed to spark a rally. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 0.54 at 3,398.91. Declining issues were just *ahead of advancing shares.*

□ **Tokyo** — Shares ended higher, with the market closing above 20,000 for the first time in six days. The Nikkei finished up 583.08 points at 20,206.71.

□ **Hong Kong** — The market shed early gains and closed easier on profit-taking. The Hang Seng Index eased 8.87 points to close at 6,836.88.

□ **Singapore** — Losses were trimmed in late trade, with the *30-share* Straits Times Industrial index closing 10.63 points lower at 1,786.63.

□ **Frankfurt** — Shares turned sharply lower *in late trade, but* the downturn halted when the Dax index reached a chart support level of 1,640 points. The finishing mark was 1,640.78, down 9.03 points.

(Reuter)

WALL STREET

	Apr 27 midday	Apr 26 close
AMP Inc	59⅞	60
AMR Corp	68⅛	67
Abbott Labs	27⅛	26⅝
Aetna Life	49⅝	50⅛
Ahmanson (HF)	17⅝	17⅛
Air Prod & Chem	43⅝	42⅝
Albertsons	53⅝	53⅞
Alcan Alumnm	18⅛	18⅝
Alco Standard	46¼	46
Allied Signal	63	63⅝
Alum Co of Am	65⅝	65⅛
Amax	16½	16⅞
Amerada Hess	53	52⅞
Amer Brands	31¾	31¼
Amer Cyanamid	51¾	51¼
Amer El Power	37⅝	37⅞
Amer Express	28⅛	28⅞
Amer Genl Corp	29⅞	29⅞
Amer Home Pr	66¼	65
Amer Intl	118⅞	118
Amer Stores	40⅞	40⅛
Amer T & T	56½	56
Ameritech	76⅝	77⅛
Amoco	54⅛	54¾
Anheuser-Busch	47⅝	47⅞
Apple Computer	49⅞	49
Archer Daniels	24⅝	23⅞
Arkla	9	9⅛
Armco	7	7
Armstrng Wrld	32⅛	32⅛
Asarco	20	20
Ashland Oil	25⅞	25⅛
Atl Richfield	122⅛	121¼
Auto Data Pro	48⅛	48⅛
Avery Dennison	30⅛	30⅝
Avon Products	53⅛	54⅛
Baker Hughes	25⅞	25⅝
Baltim Gas & El	25⅝	25½
Banc One	53⅞	53½
BankAmerica	44⅛	44⅛
Bank of NY	53⅞	52⅛
Bankers Tr NY	69⅞	67⅝
Barnett Banks	42⅞	41¼
Bausch & Lomb	48⅛	48½
Baxter Intl	28½	28
Bectn Dickinsn	34⅝	33⅞
Bell Atlantic	53	52⅝
BellSouth	53⅝	53⅝
Black & Decker	18¼	19
Block (H&R)	34	34¼
Boeing	37½	37⅝
Boise Cascade	25⅝	25⅝
Borden Inc	24¾	23⅛
Bristol Myrs Sq	60⅝	59⅝
Browning Ferris	26¼	25⅛
Burlington Nthn	54	53⅝
CBS	232⅞	229⅞
CNA Financial	97⅝	97⅝
CPC Intl	42⅝	41¾
CSX	74	74⅝
Campbell Soup	38⅛	37½
Can Pacific	15⅝	16
Cpd Cities ABC	530⅞	529
Cpd Holdings	78⅝	79⅛
Carolina Pwr	33⅝	33⅝
Caterpillar	66½	67
Central & SW	32⅞	32⅞
Champion Intl	33⅝	34
Chase Manhat	30⅝	30⅝
Chemical Bk	37⅛	39⅞
Chevron Corp	80	81¼
Chrysler	39⅞	39⅞
Chubb Corp	86⅞	86½
Cigna Corp	60⅝	59⅝
Citicorp	26½	25⅞
Clorox	47⅝	46⅝
Coastal Corp	25⅞	27⅝
Coca Cola	39⅝	39⅝
Colgate-Palmolive	59⅝	59⅝
Columbia Gas	22⅝	22⅝
Commonw Ed	28⅛	28⅞
Compaq Comp	48⅝	47⅞
Comp Ass Int	22⅝	22⅝
Conagra	24¼	24⅝
Cons Edison	35⅝	35⅝
Cons Nat Gas	50	49⅝
Cons Rail	50⅝	51¼
Cooper Inds	46⅛	46⅛
Corning Inc	33⅞	33⅞
Crown Cork	38¾	38⅛
Dana Corp	48⅞	48⅛
Dayton Hudson	69⅝	69⅝
Deere	58⅝	57⅞
Delta Air Lines	57⅝	56
Deluxe Corp	45⅞	45⅝
Detroit Edison	35	34⅞
Digital Equip	43⅝	42½
Dillard Dept St	36½	35⅞
Disney (Walt)	39⅛	40⅝
Dominion Res	43⅝	43⅝
Donelley (RR)	26⅝	26⅝
Dover Corp	47⅞	47⅝
Dow Chemicals	55⅛	55⅞
Dow Jones	31¾	31¾
Dresser	20⅞	20⅝
Duke Power	39⅞	39½
Dun & Bradstreet	59	59⅝
Du Pont	52½	52⅝
Eastman Kodak	52⅞	53⅝
Eaton Corp	89⅛	89⅛

	Apr 27 midday	Apr 26 close
Emerson Elec	58½	57¾
Engelhard Corp	33¾	33½
Enron Corp	53¼	55⅜
Entergy Corp	36⅛	36⅜
Ethyl Corp	28½	28¾
Exxon	64¾	64⅝
FMC Corp	44⅝	44¼
FPL Group	37⅛	37¼
Federal Express	51	51
Fed Nat Mtge	75⅞	75
First Chicago	38⅛	38
First Interstate	54⅛	53½
First Union Rlty	11⅛	11¼
Fleet Fnl Grp	31⅝	31
Fluor Corp	40⅝	39⅝
Ford Motor	51¼	51¼
GTE Corp	35¼	35
Gannett	52⅝	52⅝
Gap Inc Del	28¼	28½
Gen Cinema	35⅛	35⅛
Gen Dynamics	96⅛	96½
Gen Electric	92⅞	92
Gen Mills	65⅛	64⅝
Gen Motors	40	39⅝
Gen Reinsurance	112⅛	114½
Gen Signal	60⅝	60⅛
Genuine Parts	34¼	33¾
Georgia Pac	66⅛	67¼
Gillette	51¼	50⅝
Glaxo ADR	18¼	18⅝
Goodrich (BF)	47⅛	47⅞
Goodyear Tire	74	73¾
Grace (WAR)	38⅛	38½
Grt Atl Pac Tea	29⅝	30½
Great Wstn Fin	16⅝	16⅛
Halliburton	37⅛	37⅛
Heinz (HJ)	36⅝	35⅞
Hercules	73	72¼
Hershey Foods	52⅞	51¼
Hewlett Packard	71¼	70⅛
Hilton Hotels	43⅞	43⅜
Home Depot	40⅞	40⅞
Homestake	15⅛	15⅞
Honeywell	33⅝	33⅝
Household Intl	68⅛	68½
Houston Inds	46⅝	46⅝
Humana	8¼	8⅝
ITT Corp	80⅞	78⅝
Illinois Tool	71¼	71¼
INCO	22⅞	22⅝
Ingersoll Rand	32⅞	32½
Inland Steel	22⅝	22½
Intel Corp	90	87⅛
IBM	48⅛	48¼
Intl Flav & Fr	111¾	111¼
Intl Paper	65⅛	65⅞
James River Va	21¼	20⅛
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	42	39⅝
K Mart	22½	22½
Kellogg	56½	56⅛
Kerr-McGee	48⅛	48⅞
Kimberly-Clark	48	48
Knight-Ridder	58⅝	57¾
Lilly (Eli)	47⅛	46
Limited Inc	23⅝	22⅞
LIN Brdcstng	83⅞	83⅞
Lincoln Nat	78	78
Litton	57⅛	57
Liz Claiborne	34¼	35⅞
Lockheed Corp	59⅝	58⅝
Louisiana Pac	70⅞	70¼
MCI Commun	47	47¼
Marriott	24¼	24½
Marsh & McLnn	90⅞	90½
Masco Corp	30⅝	30⅛
May Dept St	68⅝	67⅝
Maytag Corp	13⅞	13¼
McCaw Cellular	35⅝	36
McDonalds	47⅛	46½
McDonnell D	59⅞	58⅞
McGraw Hill	61¼	61¼
Mead Corp	45⅝	46⅞
Medtronic	65½	63⅝
Mellon Bk	54⅝	52⅛
Melville Corp	44⅛	44½
Merck Inc	37⅛	36⅛
Merrill Lynch	68½	69⅛
Minnesota Mine	111¼	112⅝
Mobil Corp	68⅞	68⅛
Monsanto	55⅞	55⅛
Morgan (JP)	67½	66⅝
Motorola Inc	68⅝	69⅛
Natl Medical	7⅛	6⅞
Natl Semi	12½	12⅝
Natl Service Ind	26	25⅞
Navistar Int	2½	2⅝
NBD Bancorp	31¼	31⅝
NY Times A	29	29⅞
Newmont Mng	46⅝	47⅛
Niag Mohawk	21⅝	21⅛
Nike B	70⅝	70⅞
NL Industries	5⅛	5
Nordstrom	28⅞	28½
Norfolk Sthrn	61¼	61½
Nthn State Pwr	45⅝	45⅛
Norwest Corp	48⅝	48⅝
Nynex Corp	85½	85⅝
Occidental Pet	21½	21¼
Ohio Edison	24⅞	24⅛
Oracle Systems	33	32⅛

	Apr 27 midday	Apr 26 close
Oryx Energy Co	23⅛	22⅞
Owens Corning	39	37⅛
PNC Financial	31¼	31¼
PPG Industries	72⅞	72⅝
Paccar Inc	58⅞	59½
Pacificorp	18	17⅝
Pac Enterprises	23	23⅝
Pac Gas & Elect	33¼	33
Pac Telesis	46½	46⅝
Pall Corp	19	19
Panhandle East	21½	21¼
Paramnt Comm	50⅞	51¼
Parker Hannifin	29⅝	28⅛
Penney (JC)	82⅝	81¼
Pennzoil	60⅞	60⅞
Pepsico	35⅞	37⅛
Pfizer	67⅛	63⅞
Phelps Dodge	44	43⅞
Philadel Elec	29½	29½
Philip Morris	46⅛	46⅝
Phillips Pet	28⅝	28⅛
Pitney Bowes	40	40⅞
Polaroid	32⅛	32⅛
Price Co	28⅞	28½
Primerica	42⅞	41¼
Procter & Grmbl	48½	47⅞
Pub Serv E & G	33¾	33⅞
Quaker Oats	63⅝	63
Ralston Purina	46⅛	46⅝
Raychem Corp	38⅞	38⅞
Raytheon	57⅛	57⅛
Reebok Intl	35⅛	35⅞
Reynolds Metals	44¼	44⅝
Roadway Srvcs	60	59
Rockwell Intl	32½	32¾
Rohm & Haas	60⅝	60⅞
Royal Dutch	89⅞	89⅛
Rubbermaid	31¼	31¼
Safeco Corp	58¼	60⅛
St Paul's Cos	78⅞	78⅝
Salomon Inc	36⅛	36⅛
Santa Fe S Pac	15⅞	15⅝
Sara Lee Corp	25⅝	24⅝
Scecorp	47⅞	47⅛
Schering Plough	67⅛	65⅝
Schlumberger	62¼	63½
Scott Paper	33⅝	33⅝
Seagram	28⅝	28⅝
Sears Roebuck	52½	52½
Shell Trans	53⅝	53¼
Sherwin Wllms	31¼	31¼
Skyline Corp	19⅝	19⅛
Snap-On-Tools	36¼	35⅝
Southern Co	42⅞	43⅛
Sthwestern Bell	77⅛	78⅝
Sprint Corp	31⅛	31⅛
Stanley Works	46½	45⅞
Sun Company	25⅞	25⅞
Suntrust	44⅛	43⅝
Supervalu	30⅛	31
Syntex Corp	19⅝	18⅝
Sysco Corp	24⅝	24⅝
TRW Inc	64¼	65⅞
Tandem Comp	10⅛	10⅞
Tandy Corp	29⅞	29⅛
Telecom Corp	2⅝	2½
Teledyne	19⅝	19⅞
Temple Inland	45⅞	45⅞
Tenneco	46½	46⅝
Texaco	62	62¼
Texas Inst	54⅝	54
Texas Utilities	46⅞	45⅝
Textron	49⅝	49⅞
Time Warner	32⅝	31½
Times-Mirror	31⅞	32⅝
Timken	30⅝	31
Torchmark	54⅝	54⅝
Toys R Us	37	37
Transamerica	48⅛	49
Travelers Corp	27⅝	27⅞
Tribune	55⅝	54½
Tyco Labs	43⅞	44
UAL Corp	141¼	139¼
UST Inc	28⅝	29⅛
USX Marathon	18⅛	18⅝
Unilever NV	115¼	115⅞
Union Camp	44⅝	44⅛
Union Carbide	19⅞	20⅞
Union Pacific	60⅞	60⅝
Unisys Corp	11¼	11¼
USAIR Group	21¼	21¼
USF&G Corp	17⅝	17½
US Life	38	37⅝
US West	43⅝	43
United Tech	48⅞	49⅛
Unocal Corp	29⅛	29⅞
Upjohn	30⅝	29⅝
VF Corp	48⅝	48⅝
Wal-Mart Stores	26⅛	26⅝
Warner-Lambert	72⅛	71¼
Waste Mgmnt Inc	32¼	32⅞
Wells Fargo	104⅝	102⅝
Westinghouse El	14¾	14⅛
Weyerhaeuser	44	44⅛
Whirlpool	57⅛	57⅝
Whitman	13⅝	13⅝
Winn Dixie	55⅜	55⅞
Woolworth	30⅝	29⅝
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	30½	30⅝
Xerox	74⅝	77⅛

Travis profits hit by fall in property sales

By Martin Waller

RIGOROUS cost-cutting was not enough to stop profits falling during the year to end-December 1992 at Travis Perkins, the timber and builders' merchant, in the absence of significant property sales.

At the taxable level, profits were down by £3 million to £11 million despite a 6 per cent rise in trading profits to £9.63 million as operating costs were cut by 6 per cent. But proceeds from property sales fell from *£5.84 million* to £1.64 million. A final dividend of 5.5p maintains the total at 8p. Travis shares rose 13p to *218p as analysts raised* their 1993 profit forecasts to £13 million to £14 million.

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De Beers sets lighter quotas for producers

DE BEERS says the first three diamond "sights" (auctions) of 1993 have been "very good", while yesterday announcing that quotas imposed on producers contracted to the Central Selling Organisation last September are being eased (Colin Campbell writes).

Producers' deliveries to the CSO that were set at 75 per cent of their productive capacity are being eased to 80 per cent with effect from May 1.

Julian Ogilvie Thompson, De Beers' chairman, said the possibility of a new diamond mine in Archangel, Russia, (either open cast or underground) was being examined, although no meaningful production was likely from the area for some considerable time, and no disturbance to the market was expected.

BRITISH FUNDS

TRADERS in the bond market now expect that today's £3 *billion gilt auction will be a* success. They are even forecasting that the issue of Treasury 7¼ per cent 1998 *will be oversubscribed.*

As a result, gilts found scope to claw back back some of their recent losses.

After a firm start, prices drifted off around mid-morning but later rallied, led by the resurgence of demand for the new tap, traded on a when-issued basis. It finished the session 11 ticks better at £50 13/16.

On the futures market, the June series of the long gilt climbed 22 ticks to finish at £105⅝ as 30,000 contracts were completed.

In longs, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 rose 21 ticks to £105 13/16 and in short-dated issues, Exchequer 9¾ per cent *1998 was £¼ better at* £110 1/32.

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
		SHORTS (under 5 years)				
103⅛	101 13/16	Treas 12¾% 1993	101 13/16	...	12.32	5.79
100⅛	99 25/32	Fund 6% 1993	100 3/16	...	6.00	5.81
106⅛	104 11/16	Treas 13¼% 1993	104 11/16xd	...	13.17	5.81
102 13/16	101¼	Treas 8½% 1994	101¾	...	8.34	5.91
109⅛	106¾	Treas 14½% 1994	106⅞	...	13.57	5.97
109 9/16	107¼	Exch 13½% 1994	107¼	...	12.60	6.00
105 25/32	104 1/16	Treas 10% 1994	104 1/16	...	9.61	6.15
110 9/32	107 11/16	Exch 12½% 1994	107⅛	...	11.60	6.28
105 25/32	103 25/32	Treas 9% 1994	103 25/32xd	..	8.67	6.33
111 13/32	108⅛	Treas 12% 1995	108 25/32	...	11.02	6.45
96⅛	94	Gas 3% 1990-95	95⅛ †	...	3.13	5.25
109⅝	107 7/16	Exch 10¼% 1995	107 15/32	+1/16	9.54	6.57
116⅛	113 11/16	Treas 12¾% 1995	114 1/16 †	+1/16	11.18	6.64
120¾	117 11/16	Treas 14% 1996	117 15/16	+⅛	11.92	6.84
125⅜	122 7/16	Treas 15¼% 1996	122 9/16 †	+1/16	12.48	6.94
120 9/16	116 25/32	Exch 13¼% 1996	117 5/16 †	+⅛	11.32	6.39
111½	109	Conv 10% 1996	109 25/32xd	+1/16	9.14	6.91
122 9/16	119⅞	Treas 13¼% 1997	119 13/16	+⅛	11.07	7.12
113⅛	110 9/16	Exch 10½% 1997	111 5/16	+3/16	9.44	7.05
108 13/16	105½	Treas 8¾% 1997	106⅛	+⅛	8.24	7.02
132 11/16	128 11/16	Exch 15% 1997	129	+3/16	11.63	7.29
112¾	109 11/16	Exch 9¾% 1998	109 25/32	+1/16	8.87	7.20
		MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)				
103⅛	99 11/16	Treas 7¼% 1998	100 9/16	+⅛	7.18	7.01
101	97 9/32	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	99⅛ †	+⅛	6.81	6.95
138 13/16	134 11/16	Treas 15½% 1998	135 9/16	+3/16	11.48	7.48
122⅛	118 9/16	Exch 12% 1998	119 7/16xd	+⅛	10.04	7.60
112½	108 9/16	Treas 9½% 1999	109 9/16	+⅛	8.68	7.42
124 11/16	120⅝	Exch 12¼% 1999	121 9/16	+⅛	10.09	7.66
117 9/16	113⅛	Treas 10½% 1999	114 5/16 †	+⅛	9.19	7.52
117 7/16	112 9/16	Conv 10¼% 1999	113 25/32xd	+¼	9.01	7.54
110 9/16	106	Conv 9% 2000	107 11/16	+¼	8.35	7.50
131	125½	Treas 13% 2000	127 11/16	+¼	10.19	7.89
115 9/16	109 25/32	Treas 10% 2001	112 9/16	+11/32	8.89	7.82
129⅛	125 11/16	Treas 14% 1998-01	126¾ †	+⅛	11.10	7.66
114 9/16	108¾	Treas 9¾% 2002	111¼	+5/16	8.74	7.96
103 13/16	97 9/16	Treas 8% 2003	100¾	+1/16	7.94	7.87
116 9/16	109⅝	Treas 10% 2003	113⅛	+¼	8.83	8.07

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
122 9/16	116⅛	Treas 11½% 2001-04	119½	+⅛	9.62	8.09
74 25/32	67 25/32	Fund 3½% 1999-04	71 1/16	+5/32	4.92	7.31
112⅝	105⅛	Conv 9½% 2004	109⅛	+11/32	8.65	8.14
112 11/16	105⅝	Conv 9½% 2005	109 11/16	+⅛	8.64	8.16
131¼	124 1/16	Treas 12½% 2003-05	128 9/16 †	+11/32	9.75	8.40
101 7/16	94 7/16	Treas 8% 2002-06	99 9/16	+⅛	8.05	8.09
125 25/32	118 25/32	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	122 7/32	+11/32	9.61	8.36
104¼	97 9/16	Treas 8½% 2007	102 9/32	+⅛	8.32	8.22
139⅝	131 1/16	Treas 13½% 2004-08	135⅝	+11/32	9.95	8.40
		LONGS (over 15 years)				
108 11/16	101¼	Treas 9% 2008	106 †	+11/32	8.49	8.26
99⅛	92 1/16	Treas 8% 2009	97⅛	+¼	8.23	8.30
108 9/16	100½	Conv 9% 2011	105½	+11/32	8.53	8.37
108 1/16	100 9/16	Treas 9% 2012	105 13/16	+⅛	8.53	8.39
76 9/16	70⅛	Treas 5½% 2008-12	74⅛	+⅛	7.35	8.05
97 25/32	89⅝	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	94 1/16	+¼	8.24	8.31
138 9/16	125 25/32	Exch 12% 2013-17	132 1/16	+11/32	9.08	8.60
105 9/16	97 7/16	Treas 8¾% 2017	102 25/32	+⅛	8.51	8.44
		UNDATED				
48⅝	43⅞	Consols 4%	46 7/16	+1/16	8.52	...
42 9/16	38⅛	War LN 3½%	41 1/16 †	+¼	8.52	...
63	60⅛	Conv 3½%	62 1/16	...	5.62	...
31⅝	28⅛	Consols 2½%	30 11/16	+¼	8.15	...
30⅛	27 11/16	Treas 2½%	29⅛	+¼	8.55	...
		INDEX-LINKED				
133¼	131⅛	Treas IL 2% 1994	133⅜ †	+¼	...	0.99
197⅛	194 11/16	Treas IL 2% 1996	196⅛	+1/16	1.72	2.52
109 7/16	105 9/16	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	108⅛	+¼	2.15	2.75
166⅛	159	Treas IL 2½% 2001	166	+¼	2.69	3.04
162 9/16	155	Treas IL 2½% 2003	163 †	+¼	2.81	3.11
111 7/16	105½	Treas IL 4⅛% 2004	110 9/16	+3/16	2.95	3.24
170 1/16	159⅛	Treas IL 2% 2006	169 9/16	+3/16	2.99	3.22
154 1/32	144	Treas IL 2½% 2009	152 9/16 †	+½	3.22	3.43
159 9/32	148 1/16	Treas IL 2½% 2011	157⅝	+½	3.29	3.48
131¼	122⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2013	129⅝	+½	3.36	3.53
139 25/32	130 11/32	Treas IL 2½% 2016	137 9/16	+½	3.43	3.59
133 9/16	124 25/32	Treas IL 2½% 2020	132	+½	3.48	3.62
111⅝	102⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2024	109 9/16	+½	3.51	3.64
111 9/16	103⅛	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	109⅛	+½	3.52	3.66

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

S&U (Fin)
Pre-tax: £4.52m
EPS: 27.4p (25.35p)
Div: 10.0p (8.18p)

Last year's profits £4.31m. Chairman says now some evidence of upturn in demand; second half should be broadly similar to last time.

PORTH GP (Fin)
Pre-tax: £1.23m Loss
LPS: 6.4p (9.6p)
Div: Nil

Loss last time was £1.34m. Loss this year is after a £1.01m exceptional. Board now examining some options to further future prospects.

TULLOW OIL (Fin)
Pre-tax: Ir£1.63m
EPS: Ir1.12p
Div: Nil

Figures compare with a restated loss of Ir£1.23m for 1991 and lps of Ir0.89p. Figures restated to reflect change in accounting policy.

HERRING BAKER (Fin)
Pre-tax: £1.36m
EPS: 3.97p (19.16p)
Div: 3.75p for year

Trading in current year will remain difficult, chairman says, as firm tends to lag economy. Last time's profit £3.51m; dividend cut from 7p.

SAGE GP (Int)
Pre-tax: £5.38m
EPS: 17.68p (14.5p)
Div: 3.32p (3.02p)

Profit rose from £4.34m last time. Cash at end-March £3m after £5.1m spent on acquisitions. Momentum in first half to continue, says board.

EDIN INV TRUST (Fin)
Pre-tax: £35.6m
EPS: 9.25p (8.19p)
Div: 8.4p

Total dividend up 4.4 per cent. Net asset value was up 18.5 per cent to 300.8p a share, outperforming the FT-SE 100 Index, directors say.

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Lloyds	534p (+11p)
Epwin	211p (+10p)
VSEL	685p (+30p)
Utd Newspapers	608p (+11p)
FALLS:	
Tiphook	293p (-22p)
Transfer Tech	505p (-10p)
Commercial Union	593p (-15p)
Euro Disney	895p (-38p)
Sappi	382p (-14p)

Closing Prices Page 27

RECENT ISSUES

Brown (D) (170)	212	...
Fleming Emerging (100)	105	...
Gaelic Resources Wrts	¾	...
Hambros Ins Serv (138)	147	+4
Holliday Chemical (195)	213	-1
Quality Software Prods	494	-1
Stagecoach (112)	124	...
Westminster Hlthcre	290	...
Yorkshire Food (110)	135	...
RIGHTS ISSUES		
AAF n/p (175)	23	...
Atlas Cnvrtg Eqmnt n/p	113	-2

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To the shareholders of

GN Great Nordic

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held on Monday 17 May 1993 at 3.30 pm at Industriens Hus, H.C. Andersens Boulevard 18, DK-1596 Copenhagen V, to transact the following business:

a. To receive and consider the report for the year ended 31 December 1992.

b. To receive and adopt the annual financial statements and discharge the Board of Directors and the Management from their obligations.

c. To consider and, if thought fit, pass a resolution for the distribution of the net *profit for the year, including the declaration of a dividend on the shares of the* Company.

d. To consider and, if thought fit, pass a resolution proposed by the Board of Directors that a number of minor amendments to the Articles of Association of *the Company be adopted in compliance with the provisions of the Danish* Companies Act as amended; Article 10: contents of the notice convening a general meeting, Article 11: the time of the ordinary general meeting, Article 13: requirement for time limit for registration of shares, Article 18: representation at a general meeting of temporarily non-voting shares, Article 20: disclosure of other directorships, Article 22: duty of the Board of Directors to consider the Company's capital adequacy ratio, Article 25: separate tasks performed for the Board of Directors by individual Board members.

e. To consider and, if thought fit, pass a resolution proposed by the Board of Directors that the Company be entitled to acquire up to 10 per cent of its own shares.

f. To elect Directors in the place of those retiring.

g. To appoint two auditors for the current financial year.

For the passing of the resolution set out under item d. on the agenda, it is required under Article 18 of the Articles of Association that not less than one quarter of the share capital be represented at the General Meeting and that the resolution be approved by not less than two thirds of the votes cast and two thirds of the voting share capital represented at the General Meeting. In the event that the required percentage of the share capital is not represented, but where the resolution has been approved by the above-mentioned qualified majority of votes, the resolution may, however, be finally passed at a new general meeting convened for the transaction of this business by the said qualified majority, irrespective of the percentage of the voting share capital represented at the General Meeting.

From Thursday 6 May 1993 the agenda and the full and complete resolutions to be proposed at the General Meeting, as well as the annual financial statements and consolidated accounts with the Auditors' Report and the Report of the Directors, will be available for inspection by the shareholders at the Company's registered office at Kongens Nytorv 26, second floor, and in London and Paris, and not later than eight days prior to the General Meeting the said material will be posted to any shareholder on the Company's register of members to such address as has been given to the Company.

Admission cards to the General Meeting will, until five days prior to the meeting, be available at request from the Company's office on all weekdays (excluding Saturdays) between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm to any shareholder who can prove a good title to his shares. As far as bearer shares are concerned, the shareholder shall prove his title to such shares by presenting a statement of his holding of shares in the Company, dated 5 May 1993 and issued by the shareholder's account-holding bank.

Any right to vote shall be conditional upon the voting share being registered in the name of the shareholder and entered in the register of members maintained by the Company and upon the shareholder being entitled to attend the meeting pursuant to the above-mentioned provisions. Where the shareholder has acquired the share by way of transfer, the share shall furthermore have been registered in the name of the shareholder for not less than three months prior to the date of the General Meeting.

No director is employed with the Company under a contract of service.

Copenhagen, 27 April 1993.

The Board of Directors

Caballito Properties Limited. Registered Number: 2263207. Nature of Business: Property Developers. Trade Classification: 23. Date of Appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers: 19 April 1993. Name of Person Appointing the Joint Administrative Receivers: Royal Trust Bank. Joint Administrative Receivers: LA Manning and SV Freakley (office holder nos 6477 and 8291) of: Buchler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF.

D.C. MAIR (RETAIL) LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester M4 1QD on Tuesday the 4th day of May 1993 at 12 noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Pursuant to section 98, Subsection (2)(a) of the Act, Mr Stephen Lord of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED this 21st day of April 1993
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
D C MAIR, DIRECTOR.

Control Components (EW) Ltd (In Liquidation)
Take notice that the undersigned JOHN CHARLES HEATH of Haines Watts Insolvency Services, 61 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8PP, was appointed Liquidator of CONTROL COMPONENTS (EW) LIMITED, by a resolution of a meeting of the company's creditors held on 13 October 1992.
John Charles Heath Liquidator

SHOP DIRECT LIMITED
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named company will be held at The Ringway Hotel, Aldermaston Roundabout, Ringway North, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 9NY on 12 May 1993 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Mr D B Coakley of Leach Bright & Partners, Barratt House, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5HG, is qualified to act as an insolvency practitioner in relation to the above company and will furnish creditors free of charge with such information concerning the company's affairs as is reasonably required.
Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged with the Company's Registered Office at Leach Bright & Partners, Barratt House, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5HG not later than 12 noon on 11 May 1993.
Dated this 20th day of April 1993
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
ROGER FOISTER, DIRECTOR.

NAF NAF LIMITED,
PONETA INVESTMENTS LTD,
GIDLEY WRIGHT GROUP PLC
Notice is hereby given that Jamie Taylor and Peter Gotham of Taylor Gotham, 10/20 Main Road, Hockley Essex SS5 4RY were appointed as Joint Liquidators of the above companies on 29th March 1993. Creditors should lodge their claims at the above address on or before 29th June 1993.
J. Taylor - Liquidator.

Notice of Appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers
John Lelliott Homes Limited
Registered number: 1680455. Nature of business: Builders and Building Contractors. Trade classification: 23. Date of appointment of joint administrative receivers: 20 April 1993. Name of person appointing the joint administrative receivers: Midland Bank plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: T R Harris and C J Hughes, Coopers & Lybrand St Andrew's House 20 St Andrew Street, London EC4A 3AY.

SALCREST LIMITED
Registered Number: 2239175. Nature of Business: Building Development. Trade Classification: 23. Date of Appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers: 16 April 1993. Name of Person Appointing the Joint Administrative Receivers: Gamlestaden Plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: SV Freakley & IP Phillips (office holder nos 8291 & 2636) of: Buchler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street London W1X 9DF.

IN THE MATTER OF
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
ALLEXTON ESTATE
COMPANY LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to *Rule 3.9 of the Insolvency Rules 1986*, that a Meeting of the Creditors of Allexton Estate Company Limited will be held at Price Waterhouse Southgate House, 61 Millstone Lane, Leicester, LE1 5QA on 6th day of May 1993 at 10.00am. *The Receivers'* report will be presented to the meeting and the opportunity given to elect a committee to represent the creditors.
A Creditor will be entitled to vote at the meeting only if details in writing of the debt claimed to be due to him by the company have been given to the administrative receivers at Price Waterhouse, 10 Bricket Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 3JX no later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, and the claim has been admitted in accordance with the Insolvency Rules 1986. Copies of the Receivers' reports will be provided free of charge to all creditors who ask the Receivers for a copy at the above address.
Creditors may vote either in person or by proxy and a proxy should be lodged with the administrative receivers if possible before the meeting. A secured creditor is entitled to vote only in respect of the balance (if any) of his debts after deducting the value of his security as estimated by him. Creditors who are wholly secured are not entitled to be represented or to vote.
Dated the 20th day of April 1993
R J Rees
Joint Administrative Receiver

STRONGCASTLE LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48 of the *Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting* of creditors of the above named company will be held at 20 Old Bailey, London, EC4M 7BH on 10 May 1993 at 10.00am for the purposes mentioned in Section 48 and 49 of the said Act, ie: 1. For a copy of the Administrative Receivers' Report to be laid before the meeting. 2. To establish, if thought fit, a creditors' committee.
A copy of the report may be obtained free of charge by writing to Sally Edwards, BDO Binder *Hamlyn, 20 Old Bailey, London,* EC4M 7BH quoting reference SE/80.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.
A creditor is entitled to vote at this meeting only if: (a) he has forwarded to the joint administrative receivers, J R Hill & P R Sykes of BDO Binder Hamlyn, 20 Old Bailey, London, EC4M 7BH not later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the meeting details in writing of the debt that he claims to be due to him from the above company, and the claim has been duly admitted for the purpose of entitlement to vote, and (b) there has been lodged with the joint administrative receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
Date: 20 April 1993
J R Hill
Joint Administrative Receiver

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
THE LIFT AND HOIST
COMPANY LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 3.9 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of The Lift and Hoist Company Limited will be held at Price Waterhouse No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on the 10th day of May 1993 at 10 o'clock in the morning. The Receivers' report will be presented to the meeting and the opportunity given to elect a committee to represent the creditors.
A Creditor will be entitled to vote at the meeting only if details in writing of the debt claimed to be due to him by the company have been given to the administrative receivers at No 1 London Bridge London SE1 9QL no later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, and the claim has been admitted in accordance with the Insolvency Rules 1986. Copies of the Receivers' report will be provided free of charge to all creditors who ask the Receivers for a copy at the above address.
Creditors may vote either in person or by proxy and a proxy should be lodged with the administrative receivers if possible before the meeting. A secured creditor is entitled to vote only in respect of the balance (if any) of his debts after deducting the value of his security as estimated by him. Creditors who are wholly secured are not entitled to be represented or to vote.
Dated the 20th day of April 1993
A V Lomas
Joint Administrative Receiver

Viewzeal Limited
Registered Number: 2061972. Nature of Business: Property Development. Trade Classification 23. Date of Appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers, 16 April 1993. Name of person appointing the Joint Administrative Receivers: Gamlestaden Plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: Simon V Freakley & I Peter Phillips (office holder nos 8291 & 2636) of Buchler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street London W1X 9DF

EDWARDS formerly HOBBS nee REED IVY ROSARY EDWARDS formerly HOBBS nee REED WIDOW late of 11 Kingston Road, Woodbridge, Suffolk died at Ipswich, Suffolk on 24th September *1992*
(Estate about £130,000)
FISK, IRENE MARGARET FISK SPINSTER late of 248 Brookehowse Road, Bellingham, London SE6 died at Bellingham on 6th December 1991
(Estate about £22,000)
GILCHRIST, WILLIAM LESLIE GILCHRIST late of 69 Caludon Road, Stoke Heath, Coventry, West Midlands died at Walsgrave, Coventry on 31 May 1992
(Estate about £60,000)
KOZLOWSKI, WLADYSLAW KOZLOWSKI late of 115 Julian House, Longfield Avenue, Fareham, Hampshire died at Portsmouth, Hampshire on 23 July 1989
(Estate about £25,000)
McCLYMONT, WILLIAM *ERNEST McCLYMONT late of* 41 Northwood House, 120 Hamilton Road, West Norwood, London, SE27 died a Dulwich, London SE22 on 25th December 1991
(Estate about £2,800)
McKENZIE otherwise MacKENZIE, WILLIAM McKENZIE otherwise WILLIAM MacKENZIE late of 52 Holdale Place, Cookridge, Leeds, West Yorkshire died at Otley, West Yorkshire on 13th August 1989
(Estate about £8,000)
NISBET nee FULTON, CATHERINE HAMILTON NISBET otherwise CATHERINE NISBET otherwise KATHERINE NISBET nee FULTON WIDOW late of 101 George Road, Water Orton, Warwickshire died there on 20th *March 1992*
(Estate about £6,000)
PERRY, GWENDOLINE MAUD PERRY otherwise GWENDOLINE PERRY SPINSTER late of 8 Sobraon House, Elm Road, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey died at Tolworth, Surrey on 19th August 1991
(Estate about £10,300)
ROSS, LEWIS CYRIL ROSS late of 13 Launder Close, Glastonbury, Somerset died at Bridgwater, Somerset on 23 *November 1992*
(Estate about £10,000)
STREATFIELD, DERRICK ALFRED STREATFIELD late of 42 Firs Lane, Winchmore Hill, London N21 died there on 23rd January 1993
(Estate about £90,000)
SULLIVAN, TIMOTHY SULLIVAN otherwise TIMOTHY JOHN SULLIVAN late of 7 Jupiter Grove, Yeading Green Estate, Northolt, Middlesex died there on 5th May 1992
(Estate about £53,000)
WEBSTER nee STEADMAN, GRACE GREAME WEBSTER nee STEADMAN WIDOW late of 2 Orchard Avenue, Gravesend, Kent died there on 10th December 1992
(Estate about £100,000)
The kin of the above-named are *requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor* (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.
McMANN, JANET IDA McMANN SPINSTER late of 24 Reedville Grove, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside died at Birkenhead, Merseyside on 2nd May 1992
(Estate about £59,000)
The kin of the above-named Leslie Wilfred Hunt and Frances *Hunt are requested to apply to the* Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS failing which Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, in accordance with the Society's Revised Supplemental Charter of 1953 and the Bye-Laws made thereunder, the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE GOVERNORS AND MEMBERS of the Royal Agricultural Society of England will be held at the National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire on Tuesday, 18th May, 1993 at 12 noon in order to
1. consider the Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended 30th September, 1992 and the Report of Council and of the Auditors.
2. elect a President, a Chairman of Council, Deputy Chairman of Council, Trustees and Vice Presidents *to hold office for the ensuing year* (October 1993 to September 1994);
3. take cognizance of the appointment by the Council of Nominated Members of Council, and of the election of Ordinary Members by division pursuant to the Bye-Laws.
4. appoint Auditors to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.
By Order of the Council
R.J. MASON, Secretary
35 Belgrave Square, SW1X 8QN
April, 1993

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE ALL YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS PLEASE CALL DEBRA GYNN
TEL: 071-782 7344 or FAX: 071-481 9313

صكدا من الاصل

مكبر من الاصل

Daylight at the bottom of Tarmac's black hole

George Sivell assesses the signs of recovery at Britain's biggest housebuilder, which has reported record construction losses

Tarmac, Britain's biggest housebuilder, yesterday reported record construction losses, and may well not be the largest seller of homes in 1993. But Neville Simms ended his first year as chief executive of the housing, quarrying and construction group saying he was "relieved". He says "sheer size is no longer important, better not bigger is our watchword".

This may be making a virtue out of the necessity to conserve cash and keep debts under control. Tarmac will not build more houses because it cannot afford to. Analysts detect, if anything, back peddling on housing rationalisation and would expect a cash call in 1994, if housebuilding mops up too much capital.

Mr Simms's vision of the future, however, is optimistic. He thinks the first half of this year will be difficult, although the group is finally seeing signs of recovery. The shares rose 8p to 141p yesterday, a price which analysts say assumes no mistakes in the next couple of years.

The second half of this year, he believes, will see Tarmac establish itself for 1994 when "a reborn Tarmac will be in pole position to benefit from a revival which follows".

This optimism spreads even to the cross-Channel rail project. Mr Simms is refusing to reveal provisions on Eurotunnel this year, the entire provision against contracts stands at £28.2 million. But he adds: "When you enter a construction contract you are contracted to complete it. The job will inevitably be completed. Whether I am happy or not is irrelevant. The important thing is that the contractor and client walk the last mile hand in hand. The sooner the parties get together and hold hands, the more satisfactory the outcome will be for all parties."

But to underpin its belief in the future, the Tarmac board maintained its total dividend for 1992 at 5.5p a share, costing £40.2 million out of an overall loss of £314.4 million or 37.6p a share. The losses were so steep that Tarmac gets a tax credit of £88 million, leaving pre-tax losses of £350 million.

On ordinary trading, Tarmac suffered a fall from £129 million to £80 million in operating profits. Then it charged £72 million to account for the fall in value of housing land, and £28.2 million against contracts.

Mr Simms has decided to speed up the exit from property development, which a number of builders went into in the mid and late-eighties. What they failed to realise then, and are only learning now, is that commercial property is a long-term game, it is not at all like housebuilding where, in a normal market, the few remaining houses on a site can be sold cheaply at short notice to free capital for the next development.

The cost of this to Tarmac last year was £145 million. The developments involved are largely in their infancy and Mr Simms hopes to sell the sites within the next two years. Mr Simms said: "I don't think people buy Tarmac shares to be in property."

A further £50.2 million has gone on businesses that have had to be sold in the middle of a recession at a loss and a further £64.3 million has been charged for reorganisation, including the housing division.

Adding in £137.9 million of disposal proceeds, Tarmac took in cash of £172 million during 1992. But debts rose from £456.9 million to £477.8 million because of the redemption of £86.6 million of controversial preferred stock and no less than £106.3 million of dollar translation effect after sterling was forced out of the exchange-rate mechanism. Shareholders' funds shrank from £1,216 million to £924.4 million, leaving debts at 47 per cent. By the end of 1993, Tarmac hopes to have a balance sheet with debts at 33 to 35 per cent of shareholders' funds and debt control remains a long-term aim.

Against a target of £300 million coming in from disposals, Tarmac has seen only £147 million. Of 19 businesses put up for sale in 1992, ten have been sold and five are under negotiation at the moment. Analysts note that Econowaste was meant to be sold in 1992. It would have brought in £60 million or £70 million of cash and could have achieved a book profit of between £40 million and £50 million to reduce the impact of the other provisions.

For the current year, brokers close to Tarmac expect pre-tax profits of £35 million and a maintained but uncovered dividend of 5.5p out of earnings of about 2.5p.

Analysts point out that by taking extensive provisions in 1992, the group will be paving the way for a covered dividend in 1994.

Longer term, City supporters of Tarmac envisage profits of £200 million a year in 1996. One close follower of Tarmac states: "Although the jury remains out on much of what Tarmac hopes to achieve in the 1990s and the methods by which it will be achieved, the building blocks are now firmly in place." He adds: "Tarmac has only just reached the end of the beginning of its reshaping."

Analysts appear pleased by the drafting in of Mr Simms. "In sharp contrast to the renowned 'bottom up' management growth in the 1980s, strategic direction, trading policies and the allocation of resources are now controlled from the centre. Tarmac's rethinking should lead to a greater control of cash flow, an improved balance between cash generators and cash absorbers and a reduction in the risk profile of the group."

Part of the new management culture appears to be a much less macho approach to housebuilding, just as Wimpey and Barratt are set to increase the number of houses built.

The capital tied up in housing will fall from about 50 per cent of the group total to about 25 per cent, representing a fall from £800 million at the year-end to £250 million, although it can rise by up to £100 million or £150 million in between year ends. Between 7,000 and 7,500 houses are to be built by Tarmac, fewer possibly than Wimpey.

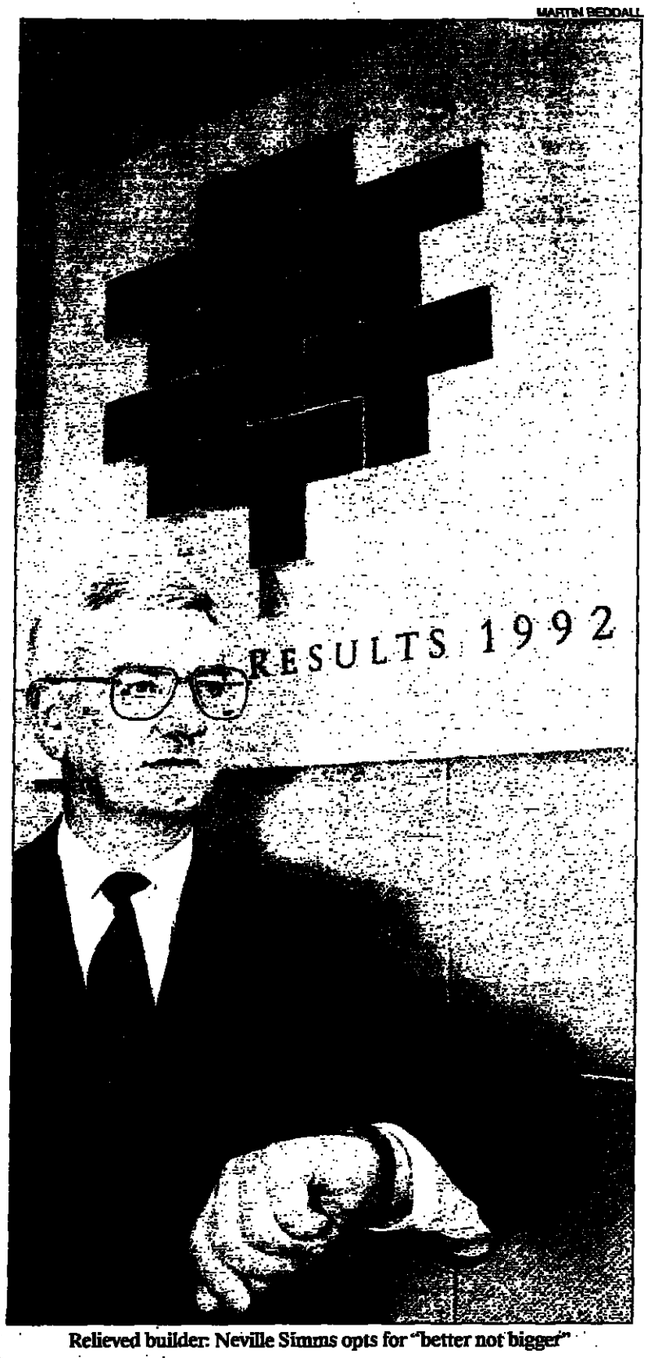
Quarrying and construction will remain as core businesses, although brokers are concerned about price increases sticking for aggregates and low profit margins, of about 1 per cent, in construction. Construction carries the added hazard of traditionally seeing loss-making contracts at the end of recession.

Tarmac said yesterday that the rate of job losses should slow. About 4,100 jobs went in 1991, leaving 31,734, before Mr Simms arrived. An additional 4,300 went last year. A further 900 went in the first quarter of this year, although the group says the cuts are past the worst.

Tarmac is negotiating the handover of a half share in PSA projects to Black & Veatch, an American consultancy firm. PSA Projects was once a division of the government's Property Services Agency and was handed over to Tarmac with a dowry of £54 million to cover redundancies, training and pensions.

On the PSA, Mr Simms says: "Tarmac is very good at making deals, we have had long practice at it. Seriously, a long-term aim to become a designer and specifier has been brought to fulfilment."

The fulfilment of Tarmac's current aims, however, looks as if it will take much longer.



Relieved builder: Neville Simms opts for "better not bigger"

TEMPUS

Long hard road

THERE seems to be no limit to what companies can get away with when the whiff of recovery is in the air. In less favourable times, the stock market would have heaped opprobrium on Tarmac for its record losses and provisions. Accompanied by a stirring message of reorganisation from a new chief executive, the figures only served to push the shares to an even more precarious level.

Tarmac has deep financial problems. The group reduced its debts by only £40 million last year to £577 million, despite raising £150 million in disposals and generating another £135 million from shrinking the housing division and acquiring PSA. Admittedly the balance sheet has been hit by devaluation, but the group's operations are still worryingly cash-negative. The current year will be little better. Although Tarmac will raise another £150 million from disposals, more than half of this will be consumed as the group pulls loans from the ill-fated property development business on to the balance sheet.

The determination of Neville Simms, the chief executive, to repair Tarmac's balance sheet and strip the group down to its core cannot be faulted, although it is unfortunate that cash restraints are forcing him to shrink housing just as the market recovers. Given time, Mr Simms should rebuild Tarmac into a more attractive business, but it will be a long, hard road. A share price of 141p, almost 18 times next year's likely earnings, reflects all the potential and more. At least Mr Simms is resisting the temptation of a rights issue at such a rating. If he succeeds in turning Tarmac round from its interal resources alone, his reputation will be unimpeachable.

Sears

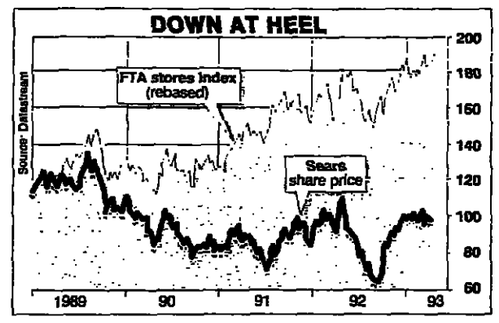
A YEAR into his three-year recovery programme, Liam Strong, Sears' chief executive, has clearly put his best foot forward with an impressive turnround at British Shoe Corporation. He has shown himself capable of cutting costs, and even the dividend, but Sears still seems unable to deliver consistent performance across the group.

Last year the problem was British Shoe. No sooner has Sears started to sort that out than Olympus and its Dutch mail order business fall into losses. Shareholders, who have been promised recovery every year for nearly a decade, must wonder if the merry-go-round will stop.

The likelihood is that it will. The benefits from the imposition of basic retailing discipline, such as closing underperforming stores and cutting numbers of suppliers, are evident at British Shoe. As this more aggressive commercial policy spreads across the group there is significant scope to raise average trading margins of 4.8 per cent.

Mr Strong's admission that Sears has done "more customer research in the past year than in its entire history" should assist sales growth. His marketing background at British Airways taught him no company can be too close to its customers.

With a large long-term improvement in margins within the group's reach as well as the prospect of continued recovery in consumer spending, the p/e ratio of 19 times current year forecasts is not too demanding.



McKechnie

McKECHNIE'S acquisition of Savage Group is evidence of the high cost of buying into the domestic recovery. Savage is well placed to benefit from the recovery since sales of its shelves and door knobs should improve substantially as the housing market strengthens. But the price is enough to make Savage shareholders think Christmas has arrived early.

At 80p a share, McKechnie is paying 67 per cent above Savage's already inflated pre-bid share price, or a historic exit p/e ratio of 160 times. Even if Savage's sales forge ahead by 30 per cent to £90 million in the next two years, and the company earns a 10 per cent pre-tax margin, the earnings multiple is still more than eight.

The £47 million price is also more than three times net assets, while McKechnie is also taking on debt of around £10 million. The subsequent heavy goodwill write off will push the group's gearing to 21 per cent by year-end, which seems a shame since it has spent the past three years keeping debts to a minimum in the teeth of the recession.

McKechnie has emerged from those years in reasonably good shape, so its shareholders may be inclined to back management's judgment. But they have hardly uncovered a bargain.

Travis Perkins

CONSIDERING that Travis Perkins is a builders' merchant in the south of England, it seems a miracle it has survived the past three years at all. In fact, the group has weathered the recession remarkably well. The continuing disposal of surplus branches has cut debt from £7 million to nothing, while trading profits have risen despite a 2 per cent fall in sales.

This year the group is already benefiting from a 2 per cent increase in volume and a similar rise in prices, and has increased its network with ten sites bought from receivers. The only frustration for shareholders is that the company did not use its financial strength to expand last year when the prices of builders' merchants were lowest. Prices are now so high that Travis's innate conservatism puts it out of the bidding, so investors should not expect anything more exciting than solid organic growth.

Euro Disney

UNLESS Mickey Mouse can find a large pot of gold at the end of a cartoon rainbow, Euro Disney will have to find a less comfortable way of raising money to complete the second phase of the project and reduce gearing from 350 per cent. The theme park has not said how much it needs, but initial calculations are not encouraging. The group has 20 billion francs of debt and Fr6 billion of equity, and needs Fr9 billion to fund phase two. To bring gearing down to 100 per cent would therefore require Fr17.5 billion apiece of equity and debt, necessitating an increase in equity of Fr11.5 billion and a reduction in debt of Fr2.5 billion. Given the howls with which any equity issue will be met, Euro Disney is unlikely even to attempt to raise such a sum. For that, it is unclear whether shareholders should be concerned or relieved.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Facing wrath of the Lamb

THE Isle of Man government should not be surprised if depositors in the failed Savings and Investment Bank do not grovel with gratitude at the news that they may get an *ex-gratia* payment of up to £5,000 — nearly 11 years after the bank's collapse. Gwendoline Lamb, who has campaigned indefatigably on behalf of the depositors since losing her own £30,000 savings, is still demanding that the Manx government pays full compensation plus interest to the surviving depositors. Reasonable enough, given that the long-delayed report on the affair laid the blame squarely at the door of the Manx government. Lamb, infamous among financial journalists for her combative telephone style, says the bank's collapse has caused her considerable hardship. Now she has turned her wrath on the liquidators, who, she says, deducted 5.5 pence of the 27.5 pence in every pound paid out to depositors to finance a "totally futile action" against the Manx government. Nasty, but so far unprintable, things could now be in store for the liquidators at the hands of Lamb, whose telephone calls to newspapers must have cost well over £5,000.

Merger misery

THE office atmosphere at Sheppards, one of the City's longest-lasting stockbroking partnerships, has plunged to an all-time low as it prepares to lose its independence to W.I. Carr on May 7. Only seven of Sheppards' 24 institutional sales and research team have been retained by the merging firm: Len Roberts, a UK salesman; Brian Tillett, a bond salesman; Andrew Stormont-Darling, a mining salesman; David Lawman, a small companies analyst; Stephen Thomas, an oil analyst; David Richardson, a European salesman, and George Rees, a UK salesman. Even the lucky few don't understand why other Sheppards' stars were not retained. The youthful and aggressive options team, led by Chris Turner, is now considering its options along with the entire convertibles team. The redundant employees, told individually of their fates on Monday, have been given some time to find new jobs as they work out their notice.

Branson bouquet

RICHARD Branson has barely needed to advertise during Virgin's well-publicised battle with British Airways. His PR strategy became clearer yesterday at the IoD convention in London when he steered clear of the dirty tricks affair while still scoring points with an unexpected reference to the value of humble, spiral-bound notebooks for jotting down ideas. Or, he suggested, if you didn't have a notebook, you could always jot things down on the back of your hand. Branson then held up his own hand, on which was clearly written: "Send Lord King flowers."

BILL Gates, the 37-year-old billionaire chairman of Microsoft, the computer software group, was asked at the IoD convention whether his recent marriage would slow his pace, or the growth of his business. "Not at all," he said. "It takes a lot of time being single. I think being married will be very efficient."

Prawn indicator

ALISTAIR Grant, chairman of Argyll, has come up with a new possible inflation measure — the earring/prawn ratio. At the IoD convention at the Albert Hall, the venue where Gerald Ratner made his remarks that some earrings were cheaper than a prawn sandwich — Grant offered the following indicator. "Prawn sandwiches at Safeway have remained at 99p for the past two years, whereas the cheapest earrings on sale at 'a famous jewellers' have risen from 99p in 1991 to £1.50." He says: "This may not be a statistically convincing economic indicator, but since the Treasury is struggling to find any credible measure of inflation, I offer them this prawn sandwich/earring ratio."

MELINDA WITTSTOCK



BUSINESS LETTERS

Green shoots and May polls

From Mr A. Doll-Steinberg
Sir, Amid all the euphoria generated last week by the sudden rash of favourable statistics (unemployment down for the second successive month, retail and house sales up, etc) none of the commentators seems to have wondered — publicly at least — whether these long-promised green shoots might have any connection with the unexpected injection of spending power in the first quarter from the government's spending departments.

To quote, for example, from *The Sunday Times* (April 25): "The spending departments went berserk. Net departmental outlays in March were £23.3 billion, 30 per cent up on a year ago." It was this extra expenditure that was responsible for the March PSBR of £9.5 billion; most of the orders would have been placed earlier.

Not having commented on this, the commentators could not ask whether this sudden splurge — by an administration supposedly committed to tight control of public spending — had anything to do with the May local elections.

Assuming that at least some of this timely sprouting did owe its origin to those outlays, the question now must be whether the injection has been sufficient to produce a self-sustaining recovery or whether more of the same — or some other stimulus — will be required if it is not to fizzle out.
Yours faithfully,
ALFRED DOLL-STEINBERG,
18 Holly Walk, NW3.

Automation and direct debits

From Mrs Lucy Delacombe
Sir, In struggling to cope with some 450 direct debits via the Banks Automated Clearing System (BACS) in the course of my employment, I am amazed at the lack of mutual "automation".

Some banks have eight-digit account numbers, but not all. Account names vary for BACS submissions from "Joe Bloggs" to "J Bloggs" to "Bloggs J".

There is inconsistency even between branches of the same clearing bank.

Attempts to sort our rejected submissions meet with "our computer is programmed to ...", but their computers appear to be using different programs. The time saved, in theory, by this system is lost with these varied rejections and the lengthy correspondence or telephone calls needed to sort them out.

How can BACS become truly automated if banks cannot agree consistency?
Yours faithfully,
LUCY DELACOMBE,
Southolme,
Heather Way,
Chobham,
Surrey.

Super scrip dividends and pension funds

From Mr C. W. Daws
Sir, The recent "super scrip" dividends, from BAT and others, appear to have attracted little public comment from pension fund shareholders. Perhaps the funds are complaining behind closed doors. They should be. A super scrip (a scrip dividend pitched at such a level above the cash dividend that the shareholder has to accept it) robs the pension fund of the benefit of the exemption from income tax which would apply on a cash dividend.

An illustration will make this clear. Take a company capitalised at £100 million, 10 per cent of which is owned by a fund, deciding to pay a dividend of £4 million gross. The fund will bank £400,000, whereas a (higher rate) taxpaying holder of 10 per cent will bank only £240,000. Each will continue to own 10 per cent of the company.

Now the company decides to hang on to its cash and force a super scrip of £6 million on to its shareholders. All shareholders accept. No shareholders receive cash. Both the 10 per cent shareholders continue to own 10 per cent of the company. The fund has lost the benefit of its tax exemption. The overall result is exactly the same as if the company had cancelled the entire dividend.

Wouldn't it be simpler and cheaper for it to do just that?
Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER DAWS,
Sheepscombe House,
Jack's Green,
Sheepscombe, Stroud,
Gloucestershire.

Letters to the Business and Finance section of *The Times* can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

Statistics and probabilities

From Dr Brennig James
Sir, I note that Mr Harold Mollin, chairman of LK Worldwide Weather Underwriting Agencies (*The Times*, April 23) has not seen any statistical proof of global warming.

Statistics cannot by their nature prove anything, and it is depressing to think that anyone in as prominent a position as Mr Mollin is ignorant of this fact. If, for example, you found that in a sample of 10,000 women that 10 per cent wore pyjamas and the rest wore nightdresses it does not prove that the entire female population do the same, but it does establish a probability that they do.
Yours sincerely,
B. JAMES,
Cherry Orchard,
Marlow Common,
Buckinghamshire.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of The International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Limited ("the London Stock Exchange"). It does not constitute an invitation to the public to subscribe for, or purchase, any shares. Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for the ordinary share capital of TSW-Television South West Holdings PLC, issued and to be issued, to be admitted to the Official List of the London Stock Exchange. Dealings are expected to commence on the ordinary shares (including the rights shares, nil paid) on 5th May, 1993.

TSW – Television South West Holdings PLC
(Registered in England and Wales No. 1466808)

To be renamed
UK Safety plc
following the acquisition of UK Safety Group Limited

Rights issue of 3,280,789
Ordinary Shares of 5p each at 47p per share
underwritten by
N M Rothschild & Sons Limited
and
issue of 15,469,613 ordinary shares of 5p each in
connection with the acquisition of
UK Safety Group Limited

Share capital following the acquisition and the rights issue:

Authorised			*Issued and fully paid*	
£	*Number*	Ordinary Shares	*£*	*Number*
2,560,000	51,200,000	of 5p each	1,921,757	38,435,137

Following the acquisition, the main business activity of the enlarged group will be the manufacture and distribution of leather safety footwear in the UK, in which segment of the personal protective equipment market UK Safety Group Limited is the market leader.

Copies of the listing particulars relating to TSW-Television South West Holdings PLC are available for collection during normal business hours for a period of 2 days from 28th April, 1993 from the Company Announcements Office, the London Stock Exchange, The London Stock Exchange Tower, Capel Court Entrance, Off Bartholomew Lane, London EC2 (by collection only) and on any weekday (Saturdays and Public Holidays excepted) up to and including 13th May, 1993 from:

TSW – Television South West Holdings PLC,
Derry's Cross, Plymouth, Devon PL1 2SP

N M Rothschild & Sons Limited
New Court, St. Swithin's Lane, London EC4P 4DC

Rowan Dartington & Co. Limited
6th Floor, The Colston Centre, Colston Street, Bristol BS1 4XE

28th April, 1993

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL				
0345 717373				
Mastertrust	112.60	120.40	...	1.04
International	84.16	89.53	+0.26	1.01
Dividend Gth	56.08	60.29	-0.14	4.66
Global Gth Sec	61.29	65.20	+0.11	2.88
Ethical Growth	65.06	69.21	-0.12	2.53
High Inc Equity	148.80	158.20†	-0.40	5.03
Worldwide Bond	258.00	273.90	+0.10	4.43
Gilt Fixed Int	129.40	137.10†	+0.20	6.00
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ				
0224 633070				
Dealing 0800 833580				
30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ				
071 374 6801				
Amer Inc Gth	39.86	42.10†	-0.29	2.01
European	77.57	82.20	-0.29	...
European Inc	74.25	78.80	-0.37	1.90
Exempt	878.80	907.20†	-1.00	3.39
Extra Inc	42.28	45.91‡	-0.09	5.48
F East Emerg Ec	80.13	86.25	+0.57	0.75
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS				
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL				
0793 514514				
Dealing: 0793 610346				
High Inc	372.30	397.90†	+0.20	4.13
Equity Inc	208.60	222.90†	-0.30	4.09
High Yield	229.30	245.10†	-0.10	4.18
Balanced	634.00	677.70	-0.60	2.61
American Inc	44.70	47.78	...	3.56
Wld Asset Val	37.80	40.40	+0.11	2.03
Japan	179.10	190.80	+3.80	0.01
Secs of Am	370.30	394.00	-3.20	0.46
AXA EQUITY & LAW				
St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1QD				
0203 553231				
UK Growth Acc	307.60	327.30†	-0.80	2.75
-do- Inc	217.80	231.80†	-0.60	2.75
Higher Inc Acc	563.70	599.70†	-2.40	3.69
-do- Inc	342.30	364.10†	-1.40	3.69
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	173.70	183.40†	+0.10	6.14
-do- Inc	91.04	96.15†	+0.08	6.14
Nth America	227.60	242.20†	-4.40	...
Far East	277.20	294.90†	+5.10	0.23
Europe	212.92	226.50†	-1.00	0.97
General Inc	414.10	440.60†	-0.20	2.40
-do- Acc	454.30	483.40†	-0.20	2.40
Brit Excell	62.33	66.31	-0.16	2.71
Brit Fndmtls Inc	66.03	70.25†	-0.20	4.90
Brit Fndmtls Acc	85.11	90.55†	-0.26	4.90
Global Opps	67.85	72.19	-0.04	...
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
Gredley Hse, 1-11 Broadway, London E15				
081 534 5544				
Capital	103.90	111.20	-0.50	3.13
Euro Gth Inc	111.60	118.30	+0.40	1.00
Extra Inc	102.60	109.70†	-0.30	5.39
General	236.60	253.00†	-1.10	3.41
Gilt Fxd Inc	57.73	59.69	-0.04	8.66
Income	474.70	507.70	-1.70	4.91
BARING FUND MANAGERS				
PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ				
081 658 9082				
American Gth	81.08	86.15	-1.13	0.10
Amer Smllr Cos	103.30	110.70	-3.00	...
Convertibles	52.48	56.12†	...	6.90
Eastern	173.70	187	-0.10	1.60
Equity Income	79.67	84.75	-0.36	6.30
European Gth	221.80	236.30	-0.60	1.50
Euro Smllr Cos	147.10	157.20	...	1.90
Exempt	81.71	83.87	...	3.60
German Growth	54.68	58.31	-0.14	0.70
Global Growth	102.30	109	-0.30	...
Japan Growth	186.40	199.60	+4.50	...
Japan Sunrise	158.50	169.60	+3.40	...
Portfolio	113.60	121.60	-0.50	3.20
-do- Acc	202.50	216.80	-0.80	3.20
UK Growth	78.81	83.84	-0.03	2.90
UK Smaller Cos	81.58	87.25†	-0.11	1.90
Select Managers	61.55	66.00†	-0.09	2.00
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
190 West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA				
041 332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	102.65	109.78	-0.34	1.87
-do- Inc	93.31	99.80†	-0.31	1.87
Global Bond	28.74	30.49	+0.11	5.03
High Yield Acc	52.13	55.75	-0.09	4.43
-do- Inc	37.84	40.47†	-0.06	4.43
Smlr Cos Acc	88.28	94.42	+0.14	1.35
-do- Inc	81.64	87.32	+0.13	1.35
Amer Gth Acc	53.84	57.58	-1.02	...
-do- Inc	52.83	56.51	-1.00	...
Euro Gth Acc	96.28	102.97	-0.41	1.07
-do- Inc	94.96	101.56†	-0.40	1.07
Mngd P folio	33.51	35.84†	-0.18	1.46
Pacific Growth	94.14	100.69	+0.43	0.58
Intl Spec Opps	82.40	88.13	-0.81	0.67
BROWN SHIPLEY				
9/17 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath				
0444 458144				
Financial	119.70	127.50	...	3.25
Smaller Cos Acc	280.30	303.10	+0.90	...
Smaller Cos Inc	164.70	176.20†	+0.50	1.23
High Inc	69.73	74.96†	-0.17	6.99
Income	124.60	133.30†	-0.20	4.13
Mngd P folio Inc	91.34	97.28	-0.59	2.04
-do- Acc	172.60	183.80	-1.20	...
North American	95.22	101.40	-1.40	0.21
Orient	115.00	124.20	+1.80	...
Recovery	38.45	41.34	+0.22	2.70
German	40.68	43.63	-0.24	0.09
Intl Growth	31.50	33.54	+0.07	0.23
European Inc	21.90	23.57	+0.03	0.48
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT				
Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London EC3A 7JJ. 071 247 4542				
Dealing: 071 247 7474				
Fellowship Tst	60.90	64.79†	-0.57	1.19
-do- Acc	68.65	73.04	-0.64	1.16
Income Fund 5	209.20	222.60	+0.01	4.09
-do- Acc	486.80	517.90†	-0.20	4.02
Inv Portfolio	65.85	68.24	-0.15	2.02
-do- Acc	74.36	77.06	-0.17	2.03
Smaller Cos	124.50	132.50	+0.10	1.57
-do- Acc	149.60	159.20	+0.20	1.88
High Inc P folio	59.81	61.98	-0.03	4.62
BURRAGE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL				
071 480 7216				
Sht Gilt Fxd Int	65.56	66.45†	-0.10	6.05
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH				
061 837 5060				
Environ	133.30	141.90	-0.30	1.67
UK Growth	144.80	154.10	-0.30	2.06
UK Income	121.10	128.90†	-0.30	4.24
CANNON FUND MANAGERS				
1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB				
081 902 8876				
SE Asia	78.39	83.84†	-0.39	1.07
Growth	43.96	47.02	-0.21	3.04
Income	53.20	56.90	-0.18	4.26
Far East	46.20	49.41†	-0.79	0.16
North American	72.49	77.95†	-1.20	0.01
Global	77.83	83.24†	-0.50	0.79
European	66.79	71.43†	-0.13	1.75
Japan	105.50	112.80	+2.60	0.01
Intl Currency Bd	56.22	59.57†	-0.01	5.38
UK Cap Gwth	77.23	82.60†	-0.52	2.17

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF				
Enquiries: 061 234 5685				
Dealing: 061 236 5362				
Capability Trusts				
American Gen	117.50	125.00†	-1.00	0.16
-do- Acc	124.80	132.80	-1.10	0.16
European	63.68	67.51	-0.43	1.06
-do- Acc	66.00	69.98	-0.44	1.06
Far East Gen	61.08	64.93†	+1.62	...
-do- Acc	61.03	64.93	+1.62	...
Glenfriars	235.00	247.80†	-2.10	0.99
-do- Acc	262.30	279.10	-2.30	0.99
Growth	374.40	400.50	+0.30	2.64
-do- Acc	640.80	685.50	+0.60	2.64
Income Growth	372.60	396.40	-1.10	4.05
-do- Acc	495.40	527.10	-1.50	4.05
Master Portfolio	9206.0	9539.0†	-26.00	2.78
-do- Acc	10654.0	11039.0	-30.00	2.78
Special Sits	85.30	90.75	-0.67	2.55
-do- Acc	99.82	106.20	-0.78	2.55
Exempt Fund				
High Yield	1203.0	1241.0	-4.00	4.50
-do- Acc	1393.0	1437.0	-4.00	4.50
CAPEL (JAMES) UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU				
071 955 5050. Dealing: 071 955 5055				
American Index	175.80	187.40	-1.00	1.76
Capital	522.00	557.00†	-1.00	2.39
Eurotrack 100	124.70	132.60	-0.60	1.56
Euro Gth	77.59	82.61	-0.23	1.40
Far East Growth	86.14	91.93	+1.58	0.14
Global Bond	22.85	24.06	...	6.22
Hong Kong	73.76	78.71†	+0.48	0.57
Income	492.80	525.90†	-1.80	3.96
Intl Growth	70.44	75.17	+0.59	1.01
Japan Growth	252.90	269.90	+9.30	...
Japan Smllr Cos	31.35	33.45	+0.87	...
Japan Index	74.08	79.02	+2.45	0.24
Nth American	393.30	419.70†	-0.80	1.03
S pore Mly Gth	48.44	51.69	-1.23	...
The Footsie Fd	103.60	111.50	-0.50	2.64
Tiger Index	130.20	138.90	-0.10	0.72
Trixie Index	103.20	110.10	-0.10	2.61
UK Index	121.00	129.10	-0.50	3.02
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH				
071 606 0708				
American P folio	77.94	83.24	-0.06	1.00
European P folio	70.36	74.83†	-0.12	1.38
Japanese P folio	60.87	64.57	+1.25	...
Pacific P folio	93.49	100.53	+0.22	1.17
Cazenove P folio	68.91	73.71	+0.04	3.00
UK Income Gth	61.52	66.01†	+0.01	5.00
Utility & Bond	49.47	50.07	-0.10	7.00
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND				
2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ				
071 588 1815				
Investment Fd	605.20	612.50	...	4.72
Fixed Int	155.75	156.30	...	9.28
Deposit	5.70	...	...	...
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND				
2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ				
071 588 1815				
Income	590.99	597.49	...	5.00
-do- Acc	2301.6	2337.6	...	...
Deposit	5.65	...	...	...
Fxd Int Inc	127.00	127.01	...	9.13
-do- Acc	167.75	167.79	...	...
CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge, SE1				
071 407 5966				
City Fin Assets	62.01	65.77†	...	2.31
Beckman Intl	81.12	85.62†	...	3.10
Friars Hse Inc	179.91	193.45	...	6.02
Friars Hse Cap	247.97	266.63	...	2.73
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS				
Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222				
Dealing: 081 686 9818				
Japan Gth Acc	39.72	42.26	+1.11	...
Managed	60.48	64.34	-0.08	2.80
-do- Acc	72.04	77.70	-0.10	2.80
Smaller Cos	33.62	35.77	+0.06	1.88
-do- Acc	37.88	40.30	+0.07	1.88
UK General	67.12	71.40	-0.28	2.47
-do- Acc	80.47	85.61	-0.33	2.47
Wwide Bd	60.98	64.80†	+0.04	6.23
-do- Acc	78.37	83.27	+0.04	6.23
Wwide Sp Sits	53.83	57.57	+0.11	0.21
-do- Acc	56.08	59.98	+0.11	0.21
Quilter General	119.07	126.67†	-0.40	2.46
-do- Acc	132.30	140.74	-0.45	2.46
Quilter Income	92.41	98.31†	-0.52	3.84
-do- Acc	113.90	121.17	-0.64	3.84
Quilter Intl	...	...	...	...
-do- Acc	...	...	...	...
Quilter UK Spec	69.69	74.14	+0.02	1.79
-do- Acc	92.19	98.07	+0.03	1.79
CU Prestige Fund Management				
Deposit	91.74	91.74†	+0.01	5.49
-do- Acc	91.74	91.74†	+0.01	5.49
Fin Property	107.26	114.11	+0.03	1.38
Fixed Conv	41.44	44.08	+0.01	7.27
-do- Acc	108.27	115.18	+0.01	7.27
Equity Inc	142.98	152.11	-0.57	3.50
-do- Acc	458.97	488.27	-1.83	3.50
High Yield	117.34	124.83†	-0.28	4.64
-do- Acc	443.10	471.38	-1.05	4.64
Preference	46.93	49.93†	+0.04	7.35
-do- Acc	240.95	256.33	+3.30	7.35
PPT Europe	146.03	155.35†	-1.10	0.98
PPT Mthly Inc Plus	47.38	50.40†	+0.02	7.98
PPT Global Bnd	80.04	85.02†	-0.07	5.91
PPT Gold Coon	51.82	55.12†	+0.20	...
PPT Oriental Gth	53.38	56.79†	-1.51	0.57
PPT Far East Gth	101.57	108.05†	+1.21	0.29
PPT Japan	110.91	117.99†	+3.49	...
PPT N Amer	137.18	145.94†	-1.96	0.15
PPT UK Gth	113.63	120.88	-0.49	1.94
EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS				
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ				
0242 577 555				
Oriental Op Acc	76.13	80.99	-0.45	0.98
Japanese Acc	58.67	62.41	+1.82	...
UK Balncd Inc	125.00	133.00	-0.30	2.52
-do- Acc	146.00	155.30	-0.30	2.52
UK Growth Acc	204.90	218.00	-0.60	2.21
UK High Inc	134.20	142.80	-0.30	6.65
-do- Acc	158.50	168.60	-0.40	6.65
N America Acc	101.00	107.40	-1.80	0.36
European Acc	149.80	159.40	-0.20	0.44
UK Pref F/I Inc	60.00	63.66	+0.06	8.88
-do- Acc	96.84	102.70	+0.10	8.88
Intl Sp Sits Acc	45.28	48.17	+0.08	0.24
Environmntl Opp	71.21	75.76†	-0.19	1.46
EDINBURGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. 031 313 1000				
American	101.80	108.20	-1.60	0.46
UK Smlr Cos	191.00	202.90	+0.80	1.23
Eurofund	36.34	38.44	-0.20	1.04
Mngd Exempt	163.30	170.20†	-0.10	3.08
Growth Inc	209.30	222.40	-1.30	3.82
High Dist	138.20	146.80	-0.50	5.28
International	310.70	330.10	-0.60	0.98
Intl Income	77.34	82.56†	-0.09	3.15
Pacific	55.11	58.58	-0.30	0.51
Smllr Jap Cos	63.58	67.55	+0.98	...
Tokyo	193.40	205.50	+5.60	...
Japan Exempt	108.40	111.30	-2.20	0.45
Sm Jap Exempt	533.50	548.10	+1.10	0.09

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Formerly Target				
American Eagle	112.10	119.10	-1.40	1.18
Australia	6.961	7.396	+0.059	1.08
Equity	183.30	194.80	-0.20	3.59
Euro Spec Sits	137.30	145.20	-0.60	0.58
Financial	38.48	40.89	-0.34	2.96
Global Opps Inc	84.42	89.70	-0.09	2.25
-do- Acc	87.51	92.98	-0.08	2.25
Gold Gen Inc	42.70	45.37	+0.35	0.95
-do- Acc	82.45	87.60†	+0.69	0.95
Income	119.50	127.00	...	4.86
Japan General	148.40	157.60	+4.20	...
Preference	21.35	22.66†	-0.02	8.01
UK Capital	102.60	109.00	...	3.10
Worldwide Cap	190.80	202.70	-0.10	3.18
World Income	79.09	84.98	-0.57	3.57
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT				
41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU				
071 373 7261				
Endurance	170.80	181.60	...	1.11
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7QW				
0296 431480				
Pelican	102.59	108.20†	-0.02	3.40
High Income	120.80	127.16	-0.14	4.80
Tst of Inv Tsts	140.47	147.86	+0.22	2.20
Special Sits	84.11	88.54	...	2.95
North American	95.91	100.96	-0.95	1.11
Far Eastern	227.40	239.37	+1.85	1.51
Intl Growth	89.80	94.53	+0.06	1.50
European	61.87	65.13	-0.09	2.23
Smaller Cos	69.90	73.58	-0.05	2.22
FAMILY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD				
16 West Street, Brighton, BN1 2RE				
0273 220 707				
United Charities	218.10	231.90†	...	3.47
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD				
Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414181				
Cash Unit Tst	100.00	100.00	...	5.50
European Tst	113.90	120.70	-0.20	...
High Income	24.62	25.91†	-0.01	5.78
FOREIGN & COLONIAL				
8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000				
European	89.16	94.39	-0.67	0.91
Far Eastern	130.00	139.00	+2.30	...
Oseas Income	84.90	90.94	-0.31	2.89
UK Growth	91.29	97.64	-0.17	1.33
UK Income	101.50	108.60	-0.30	3.83
US Smaller Cos	219.70	235.00	-1.80	...
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT				
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT				
071 374 4100				
Am Smllr Co	380.60	407.00	-3.70	...
-do- Acc	388.80	415.70	-3.90	...
Capital	285.50	303.60	+0.60	1.94
-do- Acc	397.60	422.90	+0.90	1.94
Cond Smllr Cos	46.64	50.14	-0.01	0.93
-do- Acc	48.25	51.87	-0.02	0.93
Convertible	112.00	119.10	+0.50	6.54
-do- Acc	207.30	220.50	+0.90	6.54
European	94.22	100.70	-0.50	0.90
-do- Acc	97.36	104.00	-0.60	0.90
Extra Income	288.60	306.90	-0.10	4.03
-do- Acc	404.10	429.80	-0.20	4.03
Financial	99.34	106.60†	-1.30	0.60
-do- Acc	104.10	111.70†	-1.40	0.60
Health Fund Inc	100.70	107.50	-0.20	...
-do- Acc	100.70	107.50	-0.20	...
Income Tst	177.50	188.80	-0.10	3.68
-do- Acc	247.50	263.20	...	3.68
Intl Growth	289.40	309.00	-1.00	...
-do- Acc	321.40	343.20	-1.10	...
Japan Gen	163.90	175.00	+3.30	...
-do- Acc	165.50	176.80	+3.30	...
Mngd P folio Inc	87.82	92.44	-0.03	1.04
-do- Acc	92.06	96.90	-0.04	1.04
Monthly Income	147.40	156.70	...	4.12
Recovery	276.30	295.40	+0.10	0.71
-do- Acc	323.60	346.00	+0.10	0.71
Gilt Gth Tst	60.16	62.08	+0.11	6.50
-do- Acc	77.70	80.10	+0.14	6.50
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS				
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts, SP1 3SH				
Dealing: 0722 411411				
Administration: 0722 411622				
Equity Dist	343.57	365.50	-1.51	2.90
-do- Acc	693.70	737.98	-3.05	2.90
Euro Gth Dist	102.91	109.48	+0.36	0.79
-do- Acc	105.98	112.74	+0.36	0.79
Fixed Int Dist	128.16	136.62†	+0.04	6.40
-do- Acc	217.00	229.53†	+0.08	6.40
Intl Gth Dist	73.43	78.12	+0.32	0.82
-do- Acc	75.95	80.80	+0.32	0.82
Nth Amer Dist	154.04	163.20	-1.72	0.94
-do- Acc	167.05	176.98	-1.87	0.94
Pac Basin Dist	232.14	246.96	+2.12	0.29
-do- Acc	235.80	250.85	+2.14	0.29
Stewardship Dist	297.49	316.48	+0.01	1.89
-do- Acc	351.95	374.41	+0.01	1.89
Stwd Inc Dist	62.42	66.40	+0.02	3.49
-do- Acc	76.47	81.35	+0.02	3.49
N Am Stwd Dist	87.92	93.53	-1.31	...
-do- Acc	93.00	98.94	-1.39	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS				
8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 283 4567. Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Am Sp Sits	126.70	135.60†	-2.20	...
European	389.20	413.30	+0.10	1.03
Far East General	213.10	227.70	+3.10	0.31
Germany	96.25	101.80	-0.20	0.44
Global Assets In	65.33	69.77	-0.12	2.32
Global Assets Ac	68.45	73.11	-0.12	2.29
Income Inc	116.40	124.50	+0.10	7.06
International	250.90	268.00	...	1.04
Intl Income	75.59	80.37	+0.08	4.96
Japan General	344.90	366.30†	+4.40	...
Smllr Cos Div	46.19	49.40	-0.18	6.15
UK Capital Inc	159.80	170.90	...	3.90
-do- Acc	273.40	292.40	...	3.83
UK Smaller Cos	96.35	103.32	+0.15	1.23
Uk Spec Sits	71.77	76.76	-0.06	1.66
US General	105.00	111.80	-2.10	0.12
W wide Spec Sits	111.30	119.10	+0.30	0.11
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212				
Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	43.40	46.42	-0.16	1.66
Cash Trust*	128.29	128.29	+0.02	5.50
Prats Inv Inc	100.18	107.45†	...	4.06
-do- Acc	215.07	230.64†	...	4.06
UK Smaller Cos	96.35	103.32	+0.15	1.23
Income Funds				
Preference Share	24.76	26.48†	+0.01	8.01
High Inc	31.07	33.23	-0.05	5.03
UK Equity Inc	126.50	135.29	-0.52	3.92
Global Bond	28.40	29.44†	-0.01	5.88
International Funds				
Gold Intl	73.03	78.32	+3.33	1.25
Frontier Markets	38.67	41.47†	-0.03	0.43
Global Inc Gth	112.55	120.12†	-0.51	2.29
UK Intl	107.60	115.08	-2.30	0.56
Overseas Funds				
American	116.68	124.33	-1.80	0.52
European	78.83	83.60	-0.31	0.69
Euro Sel Opps	90.90	96.81	-0.42	0.86
American Emerg	69.81	74.86	-0.88	...
Hong Kong	105.95	113.62	-0.13	2.04
Japan	206.72	219.96	+6.27	...
Pacific Growth	143.86	154.27	-0.66	0.45

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT				
Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979				
Dealing: 071 588 0526				
Intl Growth	119.45	127.76	-1.59	0.37
American Gth	108.02	115.53	-1.84	...
European Gth	66.02	70.58	+0.04	0.42
German Horizn	...	...	...	...
Japan Gth	74.17	79.32	+1.75	...
Pacific Inc	132.38	141.47	-1.38	2.85
Pacific Strategy	112.02	119.80	-0.34	0.25
UK Prog Inc	72.82	76.82	-0.48	4.61
Gt British Cos	48.09	50.62	-0.16	2.70
UK Small Cos	44.05	47.11†	-0.02	2.12
GRE UNIT MANAGERS				
36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE				
071 538 9668				
Cash	130.90	130.90†	-0.10	5.29
Gilt Fixed	118.80	126.10	-0.20	6.53
Growth Equity	282.80	302.10	-2.20	3.10
Guardhill	415.80	444.20	-2.90	2.57
Income Trust	107.60	114.90	-0.80	3.41
International	148.70	158.80†	+0.20	0.37
Japan Trust	119.00	127.10	+3.30	...
Nth American	231.10	246.80†	-3.10	0.50
Pacific	356.80	381.10†	+1.40	...
European	332.40	355.10	-0.80	0.58
HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW				
0800 838868				
Global Adv Inc	33.95	35.99	-0.20	1.83
-do- Acc	35.53	37.67	-0.30	1.83
Inc Adv Inc	29.03	30.78†	-0.10	4.19
-do- Acc	30.17	31.99	-0.10	4.19
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex				
Enquiries: 0277 227300				
Dealing: 0277 690390				
Canadian	70.77	75.81	+0.41	0.94
Equity Income	111.00	119.00	-0.60	3.39
European	129.80	137.40†	-0.10	0.88
Intl Situation	71.83	76.41	-0.05	...
Japanese	136.40	144.70	+3.30	...
North American	91.35	96.92	-0.79	...
Scandinavian	107.00	113.20	+0.30	0.45
Smaller Cos	29.24	31.11	+0.02	2.06
HENDERSON				
PO Box 2157, Kings House, 101-135 Kings Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4ET				
Enq: 0277 263290 Dealing: 0277 234772				
Amer Smaller	81.05	86.67†	-1.15	...
Asian Enterprise	119.92	129.66	-0.74	0.74
Australian	132.78	141.94†	+2.61	1.27
European	353.03	373.73†	-2.34	1.39
European Inc	67.35	71.26	-0.42	3.15
Euro Sml Co	118.44	127.28	-0.23	0.69
Extra Income	253.01	271.47†	-0.47	4.45
Family of Funds	68.06	72.65	-0.29	1.30
Fixed Interest	54.89	58.70†	+0.09	8.03
Global Resour	91.39	97.98	+0.41	0.86
High Inc	279.62	298.90†	-0.48	4.23
Income Gth	234.38	249.60	-0.45	3.35
-do- Acc	590.80	628.12	-1.14	3.35
International	217.47	231.42†	+1.50	0.87
Japan Spc Sit	222.85	237.09	+7.56	...
Japan	191.21	203.20	+5.59	...
N Amer	200.54	213.45	-2.25	0.22
Pacific Smllr Cos	170.40	183.26†	+0.78	0.41
Pref Gilt	45.02	48.92†	+0.01	8.41
Smaller Cos Div	157.49	171.65†	+0.47	3.99
Special Sits	255.25	273.11	-0.03	1.94
-do- Acc	393.32	420.84	-0.05	1.94
Best of British	54.50	58.41	-0.16	2.31
Spirit of the East	56.59	60.69†	+0.67	0.43
HILL SAMUEL UT MANAGERS				
NLA Tower Addiscombe Road, Croydon				
081 686 4355				
British	86.72	92.74	-0.25	2.45
Capital	151.40	161.90	-0.40	2.03
Dollar	276.70	295.90	-5.10	0.08
European	186.80	199.70	-2.50	0.60
Far East	221.10	236.40	+2.00	0.53
Financial	661.80	707.80†	-3.00	2.53
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	25.23	26.21	-0.01	8.14
High Yield	98.74	105.60	-0.20	4.78
Income	133.60	142.80	-0.50	3.70
Intl	201.70	215.70	-0.10	0.28
Japan Tech	65.89	70.47	+1.60	...
Nat Resources	54.85	58.66	+0.62	0.73
Security	290.90	311.10†	...	2.16
Smaller Cos	106.70	114.10†	...	1.53
Special Sits	133.80	143.10†	-2.40	1.98
US Smaller Cos	56.03	59.92	-1.26	...
IBI FUND MANAGERS				
36 Queen St, London, EC4R 1BN				
071 489 8673				
Brit O seas	236.00	248.40	+1.50	1.47
Capital Gwth	100.20	105.50	+0.20	2.51
Inv Trusts	124.30	130.80	...	0.72
INVESCO MIM UT MANAGERS				
11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR				
071 626 3434. Dealing: 0800 010733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
Smaller Cos	23.58	25.88	+0.06	1.60
Special Features	26.42	28.07†	-0.01	1.45
-do- Acc	31.23	33.18†	-0.03	1.44
General Funds				
UK Growth	51.90	55.60	-0.27	1.93
Assets Earnings	69.37	73.70	-0.08	1.86
do Acc	81.52	86.61	-0.08	1.86
Managed Invest	82.66	88.34	-0.22	1.23
Rupert Children	73.82	78.71†	-0.23	1.68
High Income Funds				
Cashbox	50.43	50.43	...	4.50
Extra Inc	77.76	83.27	-0.18	4.54
Gilt	27.68	29.14	+0.06	6.63
Income Gth	37.84	40.48†	-0.10	3.55
Mibstar	74.42	76.18†	+0.04	7.97
Preference	17.70	19.38	-0.01	6.16
UK Income	301.20	322.00†	-0.60	3.07
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fixed Sec	34.13	37.51	-0.30	1.33
Property Shares	59.39	63.10†	-0.05	2.12
Exempt Funds				
Exempt	142.00	149.30	-0.70	3.53
European Acc	105.40	111.80	-0.80	1.79
European Dist	100.30	106.40	-0.80	1.81
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Gth	44.98	47.85†	-0.36	1.07
European Perf	104.40	110.80	-0.70	1.09
-do- Acc	106.60	112.90	-0.70	1.09
Euro Small Cos	20.42	21.75	-0.11	0.74
French Growth	64.49	68.80	-0.52	0.42
-do- Acc	68.90	73.50	-0.55	0.42
Hong K/China	64.70	69.51	-0.20	1.77
Intl Growth	48.05	51.05	+0.14	0.78
-do- Acc	48.05	51.05	+0.14	0.78
Japan Perf	32.87	34.91	+1.13	...
Accum Units	32.87	34.91	+1.13	...
Japan Smllr Cos	33.46	35.57	+0.88	...
Singapore Asean	72.35	78.56	-0.18	0.42
-do- Acc	72.79	79.05	-0.18	0.42
South East Asia	212.50	229.80	-0.20	1.06
US Smllr Cos	95.05	100.90	-1.50	...
-do- Acc	96.05	102.00	-1.50	...
Overseas Income Funds				
Global Inc	79.57	84.77	-0.09	2.62
Intl Bond	53.43	56.19	-0.02	6.39
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD				
10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3				
071 956 6680. Dealing: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Cash Acc*	69.18	69.52†	+0.01	5.12
Extra Income	51.09	54.35†	+0.46	6.73
Gilt Yield	117.80	124.20†	+0.10	7.42
Global Income	192.00	204.30	-0.20	4.29
High Yield	129.10	137.30†	-2.36	6.02

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Smllr Cos Div	46.14	49.08	-0.03	4.44
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	82.34	87.60	-1.07	...
North American	67.81	72.14	-0.69	0.44
European	125.20	133.20	-0.10	0.68
Euro Special	75.75	80.59	-0.27	0.96
General	257.60	274.00	-1.52	3.26
Japan	385.70	410.30†	+7.40	...
Japanese Special	204.90	218.00†	+3.60	...
Master Acc	206.10	219.30	-1.00	1.41
Pacific	249.00	264.90†	+1.30	0.61
Smaller Cos	95.52	101.60	-0.01	2.07
UK Equity Gth	34.74	36.96	+0.55	1.76
LAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB				
031 556 5151				
European	71.25	75.80	+0.04	0.91
Extra Income	23.42	24.91†	-0.09	3.30
Far East	25.40	27.02†	+0.25	0.97
Income Gwth	71.02	75.55	-0.34	2.94
Intl Growth	49.10	52.23†	+0.20	0.77
Japan	61.38	65.30	+1.27	...
Maximum Dist*	99.22	101.20†	...	6.73
N Amer Equity	35.39	37.65	-0.39	0.51
UK Equity	84.61	90.01†	-0.36	2.96
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT				
1 White Hart Yard, London SE1. 071 407 5966				
Income Gth Inc	52.60	55.96	-0.37	4.47
LEGAL & GENERAL UT MANAGERS				
5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood Essex				
Enq: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690395				
Equity Dist	413.80	440.20	-1.70	2.94
Equity Acc	785.50	835.60	-3.20	2.94
Equity Income	88.85	94.52	-1.11	5.23
European	91.64	97.49	+0.05	1.75
Far Eastern	171.90	182.90	+1.00	0.32
Fixed Interest	50.87	54.12†	-0.03	6.45
Gilt	89.05	94.42	+0.15	6.51
Global Growth	62.23	66.20	+0.13	0.79
Intl Bond	54.13	57.58	+0.21	4.93
Japanese	66.01	70.22	+2.08	...
Overseas Equity	90.24	96.00	+0.21	0.82
Pacific Gth	81.07	86.25†	-0.41	1.30
LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Mountbatten Hse, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF				
0634 834313				
Balanced	310.00	329.80	-1.30	2.79
-do- Acc	671.20	714.10	-2.80	2.79
Contl Euro Gth	49.08	51.67	+0.03	1.51
-do- Acc	51.90	54.64	+0.04	1.51
Extra Inc	236.60	251.80	+2.50	3.67
-do- Acc	575.50	612.30	+6.30	3.67
German Gth	98.78	104.00	+0.70	0.32
-do- Acc	103.60	109.10	+0.60	0.32
Growth Port	476.60	507.10	-0.50	1.01
-do- Acc	476.60	507.10	-0.50	1.01
Income	430.20	457.70†	-8.40	3.55
-do- Acc	1105.0	1176.0	-20.00	3.55
Income Port	478.80	509.40†	-0.80	4.41
-do- Acc	483.40	514.30	-0.80	4.41
Japan Growth	90.14	95.90	+1.88	0.01
-do- Acc	90.46	96.24	+1.89	0.01
Master Trust	30.51	33.74	+0.02	1.52
-do- Acc	54.94	58.45	+0.03	1.52
N American Gen	160.80	171.10	-4.30	0.01
-do- Acc	185.70	197.60	-5.00	0.01
Nam Sm Co Rec	120.90	128.70	+0.40	0.01
-do- Acc	123.90	131.40	+0.40	0.01
Pacific Basin	192.90	205.30	-0.90	0.58
-do- Acc	203.90	217.03	-0.90	0.58
Small Cos Rec	304.90	321.00†	+11.30	2.17
-do- Acc	397.10	418.10	+14.90	2.17
UK Growth	77.37	82.31	+1.08	2.23
-do- Acc	90.21	95.97	+1.26	2.23
Worldwide Gth	259.80	276.40	-0.20	0.31
-do- Acc	382.90	407.40	-0.20	0.31
LONDON & MANCHESTER				
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS				
0392 282673				
General	76.22	81.78	-0.35	3.00
Income	58.74	63.03†	+0.16	5.80
International	53.84	57.77	...	0.80
American	53.94	57.88	-0.78	0.40
Japan	50.57	54.26	+1.34	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	53.49	57.39†	-0.06	2.10
M & G SECURITIES LTD				
Victoria Rd, Chelmsford CM1 1FB				
Customer Services/Unit Dealing: 0245 390390				
American Gen	352.50	372.10	-4.50	0.85
-do- Acc	434.90	459.10	-5.60	0.85
American Rec	375.30	396.90†	-6.10	0.22
-do- Acc	430.00	454.80	-6.90	0.22
Am Sm Co Acc	105.10	111.00	-1.70	0.06
Australia Acc	146.50	155.00	-2.90	1.30
Capital	641.00	677.90	-0.10	2.66
-do- Acc	707.30	748.00	-0.10	2.66
Commodity Acc	401.60	424.80	+0.10	0.77
Compnd Gth	801.30	847.40	-3.20	2.95
Dividend	34.60	36.60	-0.10	4.25
-do- Acc	134.50	142.40	-0.60	4.25
Equity Inc	286.70	303.20	-0.10	4.89
European Div	57.40	60.70	+0.40	4.34
-do- Acc	64.90	68.60	+0.10	4.34
European Gen	371.00	392.30	-0.70	1.69
-do- Acc	463.50	490.10	-0.90	1.69
Extra Yield	368.30	389.50†	-1.70	4.33
-do- Acc	1076.9	1139.0	-4.80	4.33
Far Eastern	277.60	293.60	+1.80	0.78
-do- Acc	365.20	386.20	+1.30	0.78
Fund of Inv	482.80	510.60	-0.90	2.28
-do- Acc	871.20	921.40	-1.60	2.28
General	52.30	55.30	-0.20	3.61
-do- Acc	137.80	145.70	-0.60	3.61
Gilt Fxd Int	61.60	61.60	-0.10	7.98
do Acc	152.10	152.20	-0.20	7.98
Gold	46.10	48.90	+1.40	1.18
-do- Acc	53.90	57.20	+1.60	1.18
High Inc	24.50	25.90	-0.10	4.61
-do- Acc	90.70	95.90	-0.30	4.61
Intl Growth	65.00	68.90	...	0.93
-do- Acc	112.10	118.80	...	0.93
Intl Inc	88.00	93.10†	-0.10	4.88
Japan Gen Acc	47.00	49.70	+1.30	...
Japan Smllr Cos	138.60	146.50	+2.70	...
Midland	51.90	54.90†	...	3.65
-do- Acc	166.30	175.70	...	3.65
Recovery	35.70	37.70	-0.10	2.85
-do- Acc	56.10	59.30	-0.10	2.85
Second Gen	59.40	62.80	-0.20	3.66
-do- Acc	145.40	153.60	-0.50	3.66
Smaller Cos	57.30	60.60	+0.20	3.33
-do- Acc	108.50	114.80	+0.20	3.33
Trustee	37.70	39.90†	-0.10	3.89
Charibond 3	£111.46	...	-0.20	9.68
Charifund 2	622.60	628.90	-3.10	5.21
Pension ex 1	847.50	868.70	-2.60	4.18
NAACIF Inc 3	145.75	...	-0.30	7.78
-do- Acc 3	£1080.2	...	-2.30	7.78
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
PO Box 410, Chester X, CH99 9QG				
0244 688866				
Inv Port Inc	131.60	140.80	-0.07	2.11
-do- Acc	146.20	156.30	-0.07	2.11
UK Income	111.20	118.90	-0.42	2.76
-do- Acc	124.00	132.60	-0.42	2.76
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. 031 229 5252				
Emerg Mkts	73.62	78.73	-0.34	0.45
Far East (Pacific)	129.60	137.50	+1.40	0.69
Income Growth	71.03	75.40	-0.33	4.19
European	64.51	68.48	-0.41	1.36
Nth American	52.52	55.75	-0.96	1.19
UK Growth	74.34	78.91	-0.32	1.64
Intl Growth	87.96	93.37†	+0.44	0.60
Charities	107.80	114.60	-0.30	4.06

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Intl Income	65.98	70.04†	-0.24	4.57
Japan	49.87	52.04†	+1.02	0.08
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
33 King William St, EC4R 9AS. 071 280 2860				
American	171.80	182.40	-3.30	...
-do- Acc	183.60	194.90	-3.60	...
Cash	100.20	100.20†	...	5.61
-do- Acc	128.90	128.90	+0.10	5.61
European Gth	185.20	196.40	-0.20	0.81
-do- Acc	198.30	210.30	-0.20	0.81
General	449.40	479.40†	-2.60	2.53
-do- Acc	854.80	911.80†	-5.10	2.53
Global Dist	128.40	134.90†	+0.10	5.41
-do- Acc	143.60	150.90†	-0.20	5.41
Income	135.70	144.70	-0.60	4.71
-do- Acc	198.60	211.80	-0.80	4.71
International	362.30	386.00	-1.80	0.72
-do- Acc	480.60	512.00	-2.50	0.72
Japan	170.00	180.30	+3.10	...
-do- Acc	174.50	185.20	+3.30	...
New Europe	131.20	140.00	-0.60	1.65
-do- Acc	133.90	142.40	-0.40	1.65
Recovery	286.70	305.90	-0.50	2.93
-do- Acc	362.60	386.80	-0.70	2.93
European Inc	71.22	75.67	-0.26	3.22
-do- Acc	90.34	96.00	-0.32	3.22
Brit Blue Chip	70.46	75.09†	-0.54	3.36
-do- Acc	83.10	88.56†	-0.63	3.36
Portfolio	71.67	76.19†	-0.21	2.98
-do- Acc	81.49	86.64†	-0.24	2.98
Gold General	93.65	100.70	+7.12	0.93
-do- Acc	94.86	102.00	+7.13	0.93
Pacific	85.57	91.28	-0.47	0.92
-do- Acc	90.45	96.49	-0.50	0.92
UK Smaller Cos	50.27	53.58†	+0.02	2.11
-do- Acc	56.05	59.79†	+0.02	2.11
MIDLAND UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
192 Eyre Street, Sheffield, S1 3RD				
Dealing: 0742 529 200				
Enquiries: 0742 529 076				
Balanced Dist	55.66	59.53†	-0.09	3.35
-do- Acc	56.50	60.43	-0.09	3.35
British Dist	74.80	80.00	-0.28	2.44
-do- Acc	84.67	90.56	-0.32	2.44
European Gth	160.60	171.50	-1.00	0.16
-do- Acc	201.60	215.30	-1.20	0.16
Extra High Inc	66.89	72.54†	-0.02	6.71
-do- Acc	117.70	125.90	...	6.71
FT-SE 100 Index	47.14	50.42	-0.17	2.97
-do- Acc	47.14	50.42	-0.17	2.97
Gilt Fixed Int	55.60	57.88	+0.10	7.11
-do- Acc	146.30	152.30	+0.30	7.11
High Yield	214.70	229.60	-0.030	5.11
-do- Acc	492.60	526.80	-0.50	5.11
Income	271.80	290.70	-1.40	3.83
-do- Acc	565.10	604.40	-2.90	3.83
Japan Gth	323.20	345.70	+11.30	...
-do- Acc	341.10	364.80	+11.90	...
Mandarin Acc	91.85	98.24	+0.18	1.67
North American	151.10	161.60	-0.30	0.57
-do- Acc	190.00	203.20	-0.30	0.57
MORGAN GRENFELL INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT				
Dealing: 071 826 0826				
Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gth	232.40	247.50	-4.40	...
Deposit Inc	100.10	100.10	+0.01	5.90
Deposit Acc	122.06	122.06	+0.02	5.90
Euro Gth Acc	257.10	275.20	+0.90	...
Europa	117.80	127.70	+0.40	...
Intl Gth	158.00	169.00	+0.20	...
Japan Tracker	71.95	76.17	+2.09	...
UK Equity Inc	143.10	154.30†	-0.10	4.26
-do- Acc	175.30	189.10†	-0.10	4.26
UK Ind Tracker	138.90	148.80	-0.70	3.26
US Eq Ind Trkr	174.50	185.00†	-1.40	1.57
-do- Acc	184.60	195.70†	-1.50	1.57
Asian Trader	144.40	156.40†	-0.70	0.50
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT				
7 West Nile St, Glasgow G2 2PX. 0345 090 933				
American Inc	151.50	155.10	-1.10	2.48
European	58.90	60.17	-0.24	0.92
Olympiad	50.86	52.17	-0.30	0.41
Global Bond	46.86	47.35	-0.24	6.62
Smaller Cos	63.64	66.42	-0.07	1.24
Equity Income	91.02	93.55†	-0.20	5.15
UK Growth	80.76	83.11†	...	2.08
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
The Bilton Centre, North Harbour, Portsmouth. Enquiries: 0705 372222				
Dealing: 0705 387730				
American Acc	42.72	45.56	-0.42	0.88
Australian Acc	287.20	308.10	+2.20	...
Conscience	61.82	65.97	-0.04	1.08
-do- Acc	66.39	70.85	-0.04	1.08
European	158.50	169†	-1.10	1.15
-do- Acc	170.60	181.90	-1.10	1.15
Extra Income	71.37	76.16	-0.16	5.83
-do- Acc	107.90	115.10	-0.30	5.83
Far East Gth	151.20	161.60	+0.90	0.14
Gilt Fxd Inc	57.46	60.80	+0.08	6.51
Gold	35.68	38.36	+0.84	...
-do- Acc	38.42	41.31	+0.91	...
Income	51.28	54.89	-0.11	5.14
-do- Acc	153.80	164	-0.30	5.14
International	27.28	29.27	+0.05	1.16
-do- Acc	39.20	42.06	+0.07	1.16
Jap Sm Cos Acc	297.30	317.10	+4.60	...
S pore Mly Acc	162.90	174.60	+2.70	...
Smllr Cos Acc	24.46	26.30	-0.02	2.09
Special Sits	31.45	33.81†	-0.07	1.80
-do- Acc	36.22	38.94	-0.08	1.80
Tokyo	79.89	85.21	+2.26	...
-do- Acc	80.69	86.06	+2.28	...
N & P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF				
061 237 5322				
N&P UK Growth	66.09	70.31	-0.38	2.96
N&P Gilt Fxd Int	72.83	77.07	-1.17	7.54
N&P Higher Inc	189.40	201.50	-0.50	4.93
N&P UK Income	99.85	106.23	-0.33	4.09
N&P Intl	83.80	89.15†	-0.15	1.09
N&P Smaller Cos	73.51	78.21†	-0.15	1.66
NEWTON FUND MANAGERS				
2 London Bridge, London SE1 9RA				
071 407 4404				
General	154.41	164.27†	-0.16	2.33
Global	265.40	282.22†	+0.11	1.14
Growth	103.16	109.75†	-0.16	2.55
Income	193.72	206.09†	-0.49	4.40
Intl Bond	122.17	129.59†	-0.06	6.49
PEARL UNIT TRUST LTD				
PO Box 500, Peterborough PE2 6BR				
0733 470470. Dealing: 0800 626577				
Growth	136.00	143.10	-0.50	2.52
-do- Acc	235.50	247.80	-1.00	2.52
Income	211.50	224.90†	-0.90	3.60
Intl Equity	210.40	223.80	+1.00	0.99
-do- Acc	230.30	243.00	+1.10	0.99
Equity	212.50	226.10	-1.00	2.39
-do- Acc	430.80	458.30	-2.10	2.39
UK Intl 25 Acc	66.91	71.18	-0.18	1.95
UK Income	58.84	62.59	-0.24	3.06
UK Smllr Co Acc	70.61	75.11	+0.17	1.53
New Europe Acc	58.64	62.38	+0.17	1.43
PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST				
48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames				
0491 417000				
Asian Smllr Mkt	84.74	90.64	-0.18	0.22
PEP Gth Inc	94.12	100.67	+0.03	1.11
Intl Gth	447.40	478.51	-0.45	0.76
Income	287.04	307.00†	+0.51	3.52
W wide Recov	283.04	302.72	+1.04	0.58
American Gth	182.55	195.25	-2.11	0.01
Intl Emerg Cos	170.83	182.71	-1.06	0.05
Far East Gth	200.47	214.41	+2.72	0.01

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
European Gth	107.37	114.84	-0.99	1.15
UK Growth	73.77	78.90	-0.43	3.04
High Income	80.52	85.91	-0.01	4.57
Japanese Gth	199.49	211.20	+4.94	0.01
PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook, London EC4N 8LD. Dealing: 0800 262443				
International	162.90	173.30†	...	0.92
High Income	106.00	112.80†	+1.30	3.75
Conv Gilt	106.30	115.20	+0.20	6.42
Far East	282.10	300.20†	-5.40	0.30
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT				
1 Sessions Hse Sq, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. 0622 674751				
American	44.88	47.74	-0.21	0.62
Emerging Mkts	59.30	63.09	-0.37	0.24
General	46.23	49.18	-0.12	3.48
International	79.14	84.19†	-0.01	1.35
Gilt Units	25.36	26.14	+0.04	8.14
Global PEP	33.45	35.58†	-0.08	2.19
Income Gth	63.22	67.26	-0.22	5.23
European	40.86	43.47†	-0.22	1.22
Gilt/Fixed Int	25.37	26.99†	...	6.17
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
51/69 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL				
081 478 3377. Enquiries: 071 911 4490				
Intermediary Dealing: 071 911 4314				
Pricebank: 0426 925091				
Pru Mngd Tst **	29.66	31.72	+0.10	1.64
Pru Csh Hvn Inc	101.69	101.69†	+0.01	5.38
-do- Acc	104.77	104.77	+0.01	5.38
Pru Equity	637.13	681.42†	-1.53	2.49
Pru Equity Inc	78.70	84.17	-0.14	4.57
Pru European	164.15	175.56	-0.68	1.92
Pru Global Gth	75.65	80.90	-0.06	1.59
Pru High Inc	84.82	90.71†	-0.24	5.67
Pru Intl	150.99	161.48	+0.49	1.34
Pru Intl Sm Co	63.52	67.93†	+0.10	0.95
Pru Japanese	188.59	201.70†	+6.51	...
Pru Nth Amer	128.85	137.80	-2.16	0.51
Pru Pacific Mkt	70.20	75.08	+0.09	1.87
Pru Premr Inc	48.91	50.60†	+0.03	7.56
Pru Smllr Cos	80.51	86.10†	-0.17	2.01
Pru Spec Sits	95.27	101.59	-0.31	2.29
Pru UK Grwth	106.49	113.89†	-0.29	2.38
** Formerly Holborn Trust				
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR				
Dealing: 071 634 2981/4				
NC Income	150.87	162.54	-0.44	3.65
NC Japan	258.35	276.88	+9.00	...
NC Maj UK Cos	91.09	98.04	-0.53	2.46
NC America Inc	433.26	464.76	-3.95	0.92
-do- Acc	503.24	539.82	-4.59	0.92
NC Smllr UK Cos	250.63	273.50†	-0.45	1.59
NC European	242.58	259.06	+0.13	1.35
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB				
0708 766966 or 0800 929929 (IFAs only)				
Amer Inc Gth	67.31	71.60†	-0.32	4.08
Capital Units	137.70	146.40	...	1.43
Commodity	95.64	101.70	+1.20	1.28
European Gth	144.40	153.60	+0.10	1.42
Financial Sec	163.80	174.20	-2.10	1.93
High Return	208.80	222.10	-1.10	4.59
High Yield	199.50	212.20†	-0.70	3.80
Income Units	107.50	114.30	-0.40	4.81
Investment	165.30	175.70†	-0.20	1.14
Japan Gth	142.10	151.10	+3.80	...
Japan Smaller	169.90	180.70†	+1.70	...
Masterfund	43.92	46.72	-0.08	0.97
Scotbits	238.30	253.50	-3.00	1.66
Scotshares	250.40	266.30	+0.60	2.64
Scotyields	217.30	231.10	-1.20	4.03
Select Intl	121.60	129.30†	-0.10	0.76
Smaller Cos	217.20	231.00†	+0.20	4.16
Special Situation	108.60	115.50	-0.10	0.73
UK Equity	217.70	231.50	-1.30	2.89
US Growth	125.30	133.20	-1.30	0.37
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS. Client line: 0800 526 535. Broker line: 0800 526 540				
American	215.68	230.27	-0.87	0.60
-do- Acc	233.22	248.76	-0.95	0.60
Australian	128.27	136.82	+0.46	0.87
-do- Acc	150.80	160.85	+0.54	0.87
UK Enterprise	204.31	217.93†	-0.43	2.61
-do- Acc	236.02	251.76	-0.48	2.61
European Gth	58.14	62.01†	+0.02	1.32
-do- Acc	60.18	64.19	+0.02	1.32
Euro Smllr Cos	54.53	58.16†	-0.41	0.35
-do- Acc	54.90	58.55	-0.42	0.35
Far Eastern Gth	64.70	69.01	+0.34	...
-do- Acc	65.75	70.12	+0.34	...
Fixed Interest	51.44	54.26†	+0.13	8.70
-do- Acc	62.47	65.89	+0.15	8.70
Gilt Income	101.51	106.98†	+0.22	9.55
-do- Acc	141.78	149.42†	+0.32	8.55
Income	300.78	320.83†	-0.95	4.05
-do- Acc	887.21	946.35	-2.83	4.05
Japan Enterprise	63.10	67.30†	+2.20	...
-do- Acc	63.10	67.30	+2.20	...
Japan Smllr Cos	412.91	440.43†	+10.05	...
-do- Acc	413.73	441.31	+10.07	...
Pacific Gth	86.66	92.45	-0.08	0.46
-do- Acc	89.25	95.19	-0.08	0.46
Smaller Cos	182.84	195.02†	-0.21	1.04
-do- Acc	209.54	223.50	-0.24	1.04
Tokyo	99.55	106.18†	+2.94	...
-do- Acc	100.56	107.25	+2.97	...
UK Equity	201.12	214.52†	-0.96	2.75
-do- Acc	372.44	397.25	-1.77	2.75
US Smllr Cos	120.29	128.30	-1.12	...
-do- Acc	120.29	128.30	-1.12	...
World Fd	67.45	71.94	-0.08	1.70
-do- Acc	71.11	75.85	-0.08	1.70
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ				
041 204 2200				
Equity Income	43.40	46.22	-0.48	4.43
Equity Strategy	63.20	67.31	-0.28	1.20
European Opps	69.51	74.03	-0.37	3.22
Maximum Inc	98.58	101.13	+0.01	5.38
UK Smaller Cos	50.06	56.31	+0.14	3.21
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh. 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	335.50	358.60	-1.20	2.82
American	221.20	234.80	-3.50	0.99
Pacific	311.80	333.50	+5.30	0.66
European	435.30	465.50	-1.60	1.21
Worldwide	75.28	80.51	+0.15	1.23
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT				
109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN				
041 248 6100				
UK Equity	295.60	314.50	-1.50	2.62
UK Sm Cos Eqty	198.60	211.30	+1.30	2.13
European	318.10	338.50†	+0.30	2.11
North American	227.10	241.60†	-4.00	0.58
Income Plus Inc	63.83	67.91†	-0.47	3.71
UK Spec Sits	66.04	70.26†	-0.03	2.40
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD				
6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA				
031 558 2341/2/3				
Equity Gth Acc	34.77	36.51†	-0.09	2.99
Intl Growth Acc	27.65	29.59†	+0.17	1.24
Global Inc Acc	30.20	32.32	-0.05	3.85
Market Ldrs Acc	25.58	27.36	-0.14	2.91
SG TOUCHE REMNANT				
Mermaid Hse, 2 Puddle Dock, London EC4V 3AT. 071 248 1250				
American Gth	74.01	79.15†	-1.01	...
Euro Spec Sits	43.43	46.23†	-0.16	...
-do- Acc	45.99	48.95	-0.17	...
Far East Opps	29.73	31.99	-0.27	...
-do- Acc	30.55	32.67	-0.28	...

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
General Growth	95.90	102.80	-0.30	2.04
Global Tech	104.60	113.20	-1.30	...
Income Growth	100.20	107.80	-0.30	3.47
Income Monthly	57.04	61.00	-0.25	4.31
Japan Growth	77.29	82.19	+2.23	...
Overseas Gth	70.81	75.39	+0.04	...
Smaller Cos	70.40	76.23†	+0.14	1.63
Special Opps	100.20	107.70	+0.10	2.15
Wld Spec Sits	44.21	47.77	+0.09	...
-do- Acc	44.41	47.98	+0.09	...
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
21 New Street, Bishopsgate, London EC2M 2HR 071 626 6226				
European	194.34	...	...	...
Global Bond	195.01	...	...	7.50
Japan Samurai	104.34	...	...	...
UK Growth	194.34	...	...	4.20
STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ				
0800 393777				
Managed	42.33	44.98	-0.20	1.88
Equity Gth Acc	57.55	61.15	-0.40	1.50
UK Eq General	40.91	43.47†	-0.30	2.36
-do- Acc	54.08	57.47	-0.40	2.36
European Acc	39.70	42.19	-0.10	1.19
Far East Acc	51.80	55.04	...	0.33
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	29.74	31.46†	-0.10	6.75
N American Acc	39.20	41.65	-0.80	0.85
O/s Lgr Cos Acc	250.20	278.00	-2.30	1.56
UK Eq High Inc	34.53	36.69†	-0.20	3.85
-do- Acc	41.00	43.57	-0.30	3.95
UK Lgr Cos Inc	282.70	306.80†	-1.80	3.81
UK Lgr Cos Acc	368.20	399.50	-2.30	3.84
STATE STREET UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
Birchin Court, 20 Birchin Lane, London EC3V 9AQ. 071 626 1977				
Global A	NZ$3.56	NZ$3.79	...	1.16
US Eq	$2.081	$2.210	...	0.79
Far East Eq	Y235.4	Y250.0	...	...
Japan Eq	Y235.2	Y257.0	...	...
FT Europe	110.80	117.60	...	2.15
FT North Am	$1.705	$1.805	...	1.08
FT Japan	Y229.6	Y243.9	...	...
FT Asia Ex Jap	$1.828	$1.941	...	1.75
STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh				
031 226 3271				
American	309.90	329.60	-2.40	0.33
British	912.30	965.20	-3.50	4.37
European	379.30	403.90	+0.30	1.47
Japan	134.90	143.30	+2.20	...
New Pacific	279.00	297.10	-1.00	1.32
Mngd Cash	95.62	95.62†	+0.01	4.95
Majority Stg	99.79	100.79†	+0.01	4.93
Inv Tst	179.40	190.20	+0.30	1.87
Saints PPP	366.90	388.20	...	...
SUN ALLIANCE				
Admin. 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex				
0277 227300				
Dealing: 0277 690389				
Equity Acc	708.10	757.30	-2.40	2.27
N America Acc	102.20	109.30	-1.30	0.34
Far East Acc	115.20	123.20	+1.00	...
W wide Bond	58.45	62.05†	+0.03	5.50
European	79.10	84.60	-0.50	0.20
Equity Income	80.40	85.99	-0.36	3.84
SUN LIFE OF CANADA				
Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ				
Dealing: 0256 841414				
American Gth	31.25	33.46	-0.18	0.64
Managed Assets	114.51	122.48	-0.14	3.39
UK Income	35.76	38.25	-0.12	3.13
UK Growth	35.26	37.72	-0.11	2.39
Worldwide Gth	29.30	31.24	+0.25	0.46
TSB UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE				
0264 346794				
American	184.35	196.12	-2.99	0.01
-do- Acc	202.48	215.40	-3.29	0.01
British Gth	82.22	87.47†	-0.24	1.85
-do- Acc	96.74	102.92†	-0.28	1.85
European	89.92	95.66	-0.54	0.84
-do- Acc	94.85	100.90	-0.58	0.84
Extra Inc	177.90	189.26	-2.25	3.91
-do- Acc	283.80	301.92	-3.58	3.91
General Unit	253.45	269.63	-0.85	2.49
-do- Acc	500.11	532.03	-1.68	2.49
Income	314.14	334.19	-0.93	3.46
-do- Acc	639.84	680.68	-1.91	3.45
International	452.78	481.68†	-2.35	0.52
-do- Acc	592.70	630.53†	-3.07	0.52
Pacific	314.86	334.96	-2.74	...
-do- Acc	329.75	350.80	-2.87	...
Premier Income	49.86	51.94†	-0.02	4.61
-do- Acc	103.95	108.28†	-0.05	4.61
Nat Resources	101.25	107.71†	+1.69	0.59
-do- Acc	111.05	118.14†	+1.86	0.59
Selected Opps	93.20	99.15†	-0.02	1.11
-do- Acc	116.68	124.13†	-0.03	1.11
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
33 Cavendish Sq, London W1M 7HF				
071 493 7262				
Dealing: 071 493 8545				
Amer Sml Cos	64.45	68.74	-1.13	...
-do- Acc	66.47	70.90	-1.17	...
Cash	50.38	50.38†	...	6.25
-do- Acc	61.54	61.54†	+0.01	6.25
European Opps	58.52	62.38	-0.43	0.47
-do- Acc	59.13	63.03	-0.43	0.47
Far East Opps	142.23	151.71†	+1.19	...
-do- Acc	145.55	155.25†	+1.22	...
Gold/Nat. Res	41.39	44.14	+0.96	...
-do- Acc	42.56	45.39	+0.97	...
Japan	77.40	82.38†	+1.65	...
-do- Acc	77.40	82.38†	+1.65	...
Little Dragons	63.29	67.50†	-0.43	0.74
-do- Acc	65.27	69.62†	-0.44	0.74
Oriental Income	40.87	43.59†	+0.29	3.66
-do- Acc	52.20	55.68†	+0.38	3.66
Tiger	198.66	211.90	-0.93	1.34
-do- Acc	209.27	223.22	-0.97	1.34
UK Small Cos	69.89	74.74	+0.16	2.13
-do- Acc	81.53	87.19	+0.18	2.13
WAVERLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh EH2 4DJ				
031 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	14.89	15.84	+0.37	0.50
Pacific Basin	29.66	31.55	+0.19	0.60
Canadian Gth	34.63	36.83	-0.06	0.10
Global Bond	$0.986	$1.007	-0.003	7.29
Penny Share	21.40	22.76	+0.04	1.50
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT				
071 606 3132				
City Reserve	52.58	52.58	+0.01	5.83
Gilt Growth	65.71	68.37	+0.33	...
Gilt Income	51.66	53.76†	+0.23	7.50
Short Dtd Gilt	106.00	107.40†	+0.10	...
US Govmnt Bd	$0.715	$0.725	-0.000	...
Challenger	88.34	90.40	+0.45	...
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
2 White Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG				
081 298 4000				
Stockmarket Fd	66.46	70.70	+0.18	2.12

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data.

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	33,000	Carlton C	722	Land Secs	143	Scot Hydro	578
Abbey Natl	3,200	Coats Vyla	946	Legal & Gn	613	Scot & New	2,700
Alld-Lyons	2,500	Cm Union	1,400	Lloyds Bk	1,600	Scot Power	633
Anglian W	1,000	Courtaulds	337	MB Cardn	3,500	Sears	3,300
Argyll Gp	3,000	De La Rue	221	Marks Spr	3,600	Svrn Trent	1,000
Arjo Wig	3,800	Eng China C	565	NFC	2,300	Shell Trans	1,800
AB Foods	315	Enterpr Oil	424	NatWst Bk	6,300	Siebe	385
BAA	1,000	Fisons	892	Nat Power	1,800	SmKl Bch	2,600
BAT Inds	1,700	Forte	7,500	Nth Wst W	858	Smith Nph	1,200
BOC	914	GRE	2,800	Nthrn Fds	2,100	Sthrn Elec	249
BP	4,200	GUS A	857	P & O	909	Std Chard	1,800
BT	7,500	Gen Acc	2,600	Pearson	1,200	Sun Allnce	1,200
BTR	2,500	Gen Elec	4,300	PowerGen	205	TI Gp	1,300
Bk of Scot	2,100	Glaxo	3,400	Prudential	2,800	TSB	2,900
Barclays	6,500	Granada	2,200	RTZ	4,300	Tate & Lyle	1,100
Bass	2,100	Grand Met	1,200	Rank Org	1,300	Tesco	3,300
Blue Circle	3,700	Guinness	1,100	Reckitt Col	1,000	Thames W	1,000
Boots	3,100	HSBC	3,200	Redland	1,400	Thrn EMI	496
Bowater	2,200	Hanson	5,500	Reed Intl	823	Tomkins	5,200
Brit Airwys	3,100	ICI	1,500	Rentokil	671	Unilever	2,000
Brit Gas	5,000	Inchcape	539	Reuters	1,300	Utd Bisc	4,000
Brit Steel	4,900	Kingfisher	1,500	Rothmans	174	Vodafone	2,800
Burmah C	388	Kwik Save	384	Ryl Ins	3,100	Wellcome	995
Cable Wire	2,400	LASMO	2,900	Ryl Bk Scot	2,300	Whitbd 'A'	554
Cadbury	2,200	Ladbroke	1,400	Sainsbury	1,000	Wllms Hld	1,100

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 3398.91 (+0.54)
S&P Composite 435.58 (+2.04)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge 20206.71 (+583.08)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 6836.88 (-8.87)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency 108.8 (-0.6)

Sydney: AO 1704.7 (-5.4)

Frankfurt:
DAX 1640.78 (-9.03)

FT 30 share: 2231.6 (+8.9)

Brussels:
General 6105.32 (-7.76)

Paris: CAC 524.85 (+0.40)

Zurich: SKA Gen 481.9 (-3.2)

London:
FT A All-Share 1395.92 (+3.75)
FT 500 1523.01 (+4.43)
FT Gold Mines 140.1 (+3.1)
FT Fixed Interest 111.75 (+0.05)
FT Govt Secs 95.77 (+0.25)
Bargains 28867
SEAQ Volume 596.6m
USM (Datastrm) 133.96 (-0.29)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
April 26	May 7	July 29	August 9

Call options were taken out on 27/4/93: BM Group Prf, Cliff Res, Downiebrae, Evered Bardon, Fairhaven Intl, Haemocell, Ratners, Ratners Prf, Renold, Ross, Savills, Windsor.
Puts: ASDA, BM Group, Ross. Puts & Calls: Downiebrae, Utd Energy.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Jun 93	2818.0	2839.0	2818.0	2832.0	11808
Previous open interest: 43052	Sep 93	2855.5	2855.5	2855.5	2855.0	200
Three Month Sterling	Jun 93	93.84	93.90	93.84	93.90	10289
Previous open interest: 312276	Sep 93	93.81	93.88	93.81	93.87	11703
	Dec 93	93.72	93.82	93.72	93.81	7945
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 93	96.79	96.79	96.78	96.78	199
Previous open interest: 17358	Sep 93	96.67	96.67	96.66	96.66	193
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 93	92.66	92.72	92.66	92.70	32506
Previous open interest: 547986	Sep 93	93.47	93.57	93.46	93.55	42953
US Treasury Bond	Jun 93				110-31	0
Previous open interest: 1	Sep 93				109-22	0
Long Gilt	Jun 93	105-06	105-23	104-31	105-20	36727
Previous open interest: 61153	Sep 93				104-26	0
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 93	108.89	109.06	108.71	108.75	2287
	Sep 93				107.95	0
German Govmt Bond	Jun 93	95.40	95.70	95.25	95.37	103236
Previous open interest: 156438	Sep 93	95.80	96.00	95.60	95.67	274
Three month ECU	Jun 93	91.77	91.81	91.75	91.80	924
Previous open interest: 21045	Sep 93	92.61	92.65	92.59	92.64	504
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 93	95.35	95.39	95.31	95.34	3632
Previous open interest: 34328	Sep 93	95.75	95.78	95.74	95.74	724
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 93	97.60	97.90	97.48	97.59	16568
Previous open interest: 42107	Sep 93	97.58	97.64	97.45	97.52	161

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 81.4 (day's range 81.2-81.6).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Apr 27	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.8003-2.8143	2.8015-2.8049	¼-½ds	⅞-1⅛ds
Brussels	51.20-51.55	51.20-51.31	6-11ds	21-27ds
Copenhagen	9.5610-9.6570	9.5880-9.6110	3⅛-4¼ds	9½-11¾ds
Dublin	1.0165-1.0190	1.0167-1.0188	18-24ds	51-61ds
Frankfurt	2.4900-2.5051	2.4900-2.4933	⅜-½ds	1-1¼ds
Lisbon	231.10-233.10	231.10-231.58	259-277ds	658-701ds
Madrid	183.60-185.00	183.72-184.00	136-170ds	361-427ds
Milan	2301.60-2354.40	2346.50-2354.40	8-10ds	26-29ds
Montreal	2.0012-2.0143	2.0034-2.0055	0.25-0.17pr	0.43-0.29pr
New York	1.5770-1.5900	1.5770-1.5780	0.39-0.38pr	1.15-1.13pr
Oslo	10.5150-10.5940	10.5420-10.5650	1⅞-2¼ds	4⅞-6¼ds
Paris	8.3950-8.4640	8.3950-8.4100	1¾-2¼ds	4⅞-5⅛ds
Stockholm	11.3920-11.5060	11.4520-11.4770	2¾-4¼ds	8¼-10ds
Tokyo	174.42-175.31	175.10-175.31	½-⅜pr	1⅝-1¼pr
Vienna	17.50-17.65	17.50-17.55	1¼-2¾ds	5¼-7⅛ds
Zurich	2.2432-2.2571	2.2432-2.2463	¼pr-par	⅜-⅛pr

Source: Extel

Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5830-1.5857
Australia dollar	2.1898-2.1927
Bahrain dinar	0.592-0.604
Brazil cruzeiro *	49181.3-49213.1
Cyprus pound	0.736-0.746
Finland marka	8.4195-8.5355
Greece drachma	336.75-343.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.2565-12.2658
India rupee	49.24-50.20
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4715-0.4815
Malaysia ringgit	4.0749-4.0791
Mexico peso	4.83-4.93
New Zealand dollar	2.8960-2.9016
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8845-6.0105
Singapore dollar	2.5590-2.5622
S Africa rand (fin)	7.2207-7.2729
S Africa rand (com)	4.9777-4.9841
U A E dirham	5.763-5.887

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.3802-1.3812
Austria	11.07-11.08
Belgium (Com)	32.37-32.40
Canada	1.2675-1.2680
Denmark	6.0643-6.0673
France	5.3175-5.3195
Germany	1.574-1.575
Hong Kong	7.7255-7.7265
Ireland	1.5484-1.5494
Italy	1468.5-1470.0
Japan	109.9-110.0
Malaysia	2.5685-2.5695
Netherlands	1.7689-1.7694
Norway	6.6545-6.6575
Portugal	145.65-145.75
Singapore	1.613-1.614
Spain	115.8-116.0
Sweden	7.2215-7.2315
Switzerland	1.4165-1.4175

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6¼ Low 5 Week fixed: 5¹⁵⁄₁₆
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5¹¹⁄₁₆ ; 3 mth 5⅝ . Sell: 2 mth 5⅝ ; 3 mth: 5⁹⁄₁₆ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅞-5¹³⁄₁₆	5²⁹⁄₃₂-5²⁷⁄₃₂	5²⁹⁄₃₂-5²⁷⁄₃₂	5¹³⁄₁₆-5¾	
Sterling Money Rates:					
Interbank:	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6¼	6⅛-6¼
Overnight: open 6¼ close 5	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6¼	6⅛-6¼
Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6⅛	6⅛	6⅛
Sterling CDs:	5¹⁵⁄₁₆-5⅞	6-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅛
Dollar CDs:	3.02-2.99	n/a	3.05-3.02	3.13-3.10	3.34-3.31
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Mar 31, 1993 Agreed rates Apr 26, 1993 to May 25, 1993 Scheme I: 7.36 %. Schemes II & III: 7.25 %. Reference rate Feb 27, 1993 to Mar 31, 1993 Scheme IV & V: 6.028 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3¼-3⅛	3⅜-3¼	3⅛-2¾
Deutschemark:	7⅝-7½	7⅝-7½	7⅝-7½	7⅜-7¼	8⅛-7¾
French Franc:	9-8¾	8⅞-8⅝	8⅛-8⅞	8⅜-8⅛	9⅛-8¾
Swiss Franc:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅞	5⅛-4¹⁵⁄₁₆	4⅞-4¾	5⅛-4⅞
Yen:	3⅛-3	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-2⅞

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $351.80-352.10 Close: $350.50-351.00 High: $353.00-353.40
Low: $350.25-350.75 Krugerrand: $350.00-352.00 (£222.00-224.00)
Sovereigns: Old $83.50-86.50 (£51.75-52.75) New $83.50-86.50 (£51.75-52.75)
Platinum: $375.25 (£235.75) Silver: $4.07 (£2.575) Palladium: $111.75 (£72.70)

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Jan
Alld Lyon	550	43	54	62	20	26	34
(*585)	600	17	30	40	49	53	58
ASDA	67	11	13½	-	4	6½	-
(*72½)	76	5	9½	-	9	11½	-
Bass	500	62	73	78	8	14	22
(*553½)	550	27	42	49	27	33	45
Boots	460	32	45	51	15	24	29
(*468½)	500	13	25	33	40	45	50
Br Airways	280	18	26	31	18	22	27
(*279)	300	9½	18	22	30	34	38
BP	280	18	24	29	13½	19	21
(*283)	300	9	14½	21	25	29	33
Br Steel	90	9	12½	15	8	9½	12
(*91½)	100	5	8	11	14	16	18
C & W	700	35	47	57	36	44	51
(*701½)	750	14	27	40	66	76	81
CU	580	39	46	-	17	30	-
(*592½)	629	16	24	-	47	60	-
Courtauld	550	29	43	52	26	34	40
(*557)	600	9	23	31	59	65	70
GKN	460	34	42	-	14	25	-
(*473½)	500	15	22	-	37	47	-
ICI	1200	81	98	122	38	63	73
(*1231½)	1250	55	74	97	61	90	100
Kingfishr	584	34	47	-	27	36	-
(*598½)	632	15	27	-	56	63	-
Land Sec	500	36	41	45	13	17	23
(*527½)	550	7½	16	21	45	46	51
M & S	330	31	39	46	8	14	17
(*353)	360	13	23	30	23	27	32
Sainsbury	460	26	37	45	22	29	34
(*464)	500	11	21	29	50	55	57
Shell	550	32	40	48	13	23	27
(*560)	600	10½	18	24	44	53	56
Smkl Bch	420	42	53	64	17	27	33
(*456½)	460	23	34	45	37	47	54
Storehse	200	17	23	28	14	19	22
(*205)	220	8	15	19	26	31	34
Trafalgar	85	11	15	-	6	9	-
(*88½)	92	7	-	-	11	-	-
Unilever	1100	48	70	85	38	48	58
(*1093½)	1150	24	45	62	68	80	88

	Series	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Feb	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Feb
Grnd Met	390	46	53	60	8½	14	21
(*421)	420	25	34	44	21	26	35
Ladbroke	160	24	30	35	9½	15	18
(*171)	180	12	20	25	18	26	30
Utd Bisc	420	29	41	48	28	35	39
(*417½)	460	16	25	32	54	60	62

April 27, 1993 Tot: 22739 Call: 12391 Put: 10348 FT-SE Call: 1920 Put: 1238
*Underlying security price.

	Series	Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
BAA	750	22	38	55	12	34	42
(*758½)	800	4	18	31	46	63	72
BAT Ind	850	21	51	65	25	44	65
(*852)	900	6	31	45	62	74	95
BTR	600	17	34	43	8	21	32
(*607½)	650	3	13	22	46	51	62
Br Aero	300	26	46	57	8	26	40
(*320½)	330	10	33	42	24	43	54
Br Telcm	390	29	36	41	2½	10½	15
(*415½)	420	8	17	25	11	25	30
Cadbury	460	22	37	47	5½	15	22
(*473½)	500	3	16	27	30	36	43
Guinness	460	24	40	49	7	17	26
(*471)	500	5	20	32	31	40	47
GEC	300	20	26	30	3	10½	15
(*315)	330	3½	10	16	17	28	32
Hanson	220	17	21½	25	1½	6	10
(*235½)	240	4	9½	15	8½	14½	19
LASMO	140	12	21	24	5	11	15
(*144)	160	3½	10½	17	16½	23	28
Lucas	130	9	17	21	4	9	16
(*134½)	140	4½	12	17	8½	14½	21
P & O	550	26	51	61	6½	21	37
(*569½)	600	6½	25	36	34	47	65
Pilkingtn	130	9	14	18	5	10½	14
(*134)	140	4	8	12	11	16	18
Prudential	300	31	38	43	1½	5½	11
(*328½)	330	7	19	26	8½	16	23
RTZ	600	54	76	87	3½	12	23
(*647½)	650	20	43	58	15	30	44
Scot New	460	16	29	35	10	26	32
(*465½)	500	3	13	20	40	53	59
Tesco	220	12	22	29	5	12	16
(*227)	240	3	12	19	19	21	26
Thames W	500	19	27	35	7	25	33
(*509½)	550	1½	8	16	42	60	64
Vodafone	360	17	29	40	7	19	26
(*370)	390	4	15½	28	25	36	43

FT-SE INDEX (*2826½)

	2700	2750	2800	2850	2900	2950
Calls						
May	131	87	49	24	10	4
Jun	142	107	72	47	28	17
Jul	163	125	94	69	46	31
Aug	183	146	117	91	68	51
Dec	252	-	186	-	130	-
Puts						
May	7	14	28	54	93	141
Jun	20	30	48	72	104	146
Jul	31	44	65	90	118	157
Aug	44	60	79	103	132	166
Dec	87	-	119	-	169	-

	Series	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Puts Jun	Puts Sep	Puts Dec
Abby Nat	390	16	27	35	14	24	29
(*393½)	420	6	14	23	34	42	46
Amstrad	30	5	7	8½	2	3½	4
(*33½)	35	2½	4½	6	4	5½	6½
Barclays	420	25	36	48	11	24	31
(*436)	460	8	19	29	37	46	53
Blue Circ	240	13	23	29	13	19	26
(*240½)	260	6½	14	21	24	32	36
Br Gas	280	29	31	34	4	8	14
(*306)	300	11	20	23	11	16	23
	330	2½	8	11½	34	36	42
Dixons	200	21	26	34	7½	15	20
(*214½)	220	11	18	24	18	27	30
Eurotnnl	420	30	50½	66½	24½	39	50
(*423½)	460	13	32	48	50½	64½	73½
Forte	180	20	27	31	4½	10	14
(*194)	200	8½	15	21	14	19	25
Glaxo	550	50	72	83	17	33	49
(*590)	600	25	47	59	42	59	75
	650	11	30	41	82	92	110
HSBC	600	35	58	73	24	39	51
(*611½)	650	15	35	53	53	67	77
Hillsdwn	140	18	24	28	4	8½	13
(*151½)	160	7	14	18	15	18	23
Lonrho	80	12	16	18½	2½	6½	8½
(*88½)	90	5½	11	13½	8	11	14
Reuter	1250	57	95	130	35	63	79
(*1257½)	1300	33	70	108	62	89	108
R-Royce	130	12	18	21	7	10½	15
(*135)	140	7½	13½	16	12	16	20
Sears	100	6½	9	14	5	7½	11
(*104)	110	2	6½	8½	12	13	16
Thrn Emi	850	34	51	65	22	46	55
(*860)	900	14	29	42	52	90	84
TSB	180	14	20	24	7½	14	18
(*186)	200	5½	11	15	19	26	29
Vaal Reefs	50	8½	10½	12½	3½	5½	7
(*56)	60	3	6	7½	8	10	12
Wellcome	700	48	72	90	24	43	58
(*721½)	750	26	50	70	55	70	87

	Series	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Dec	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Dec
Fisons	160	19	28	30	12	18	22
(*165)	180	11	19	22	25	29	33

	Series	Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
Eastrn Elc	460	26	37	43	5½	21	27
(*475)	500	5½	17	24	27	45	52

	Series	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Puts Jun	Puts Sep	Puts Dec
Natl Pwr	330	16	25	35	11	18	22
(*333)	360	5	13	21	32	35	38
Scot Pwr	310	13	18½	24	8½	16	20
(*312)	330	5	9½	14	21	29	31

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: Old crops were quiet and easier awaiting first day tender figures. The possibility of shipper re-tendering of volume tonnage kept buyers side lined awaiting developments. Although BFI remains undervalued and May touched 1550 this week, the long overdue technical correction resulted in May futures easing 15 points.

LONDON FOX COCOA

May	674-673	Jul	768-767
Jul	689-688	Sep	782-780
Sep	701-700	Dec	804-801
Dec	719-718	Mar	826-824
Mar	739-738		
May	754-752	Volume: 4603	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	906-904	Jan	903-901
Jul	900-899	Mar	910-900
Sep	895-894	May	920-905
Nov	899-898	Volume: 5321	

RAW SUGAR (FOB)

C Czarnikow		Dec	-
Spot: unq		Mar	-
May	-	May	-
Aug	-	Aug	-
Oct	-	Volume: 0	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	297.5-94.0
Spot: 309.0		May	300.4-96.5
Aug	313.5-11.0	Aug	304.9-99.5
Oct	300.5-98.0	Oct	298.3-90.5
Dec	297.5-94.0	Volume: 364	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 27

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	87.92	136.61	135.65
(+/-)	-2.83	-3.96	+0.43
Eng/Wales:	87.02	137.01	134.33
(+/-)	-1.02	-4.79	+0.79
(%)	-3.2	-7.3	-3.7
Scotland:	94.53	128.89	139.02
(+/-)	-5.42	-3.29	+0.01
(%)	-55.4	-41.9	-16.5

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (f/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Apr	unq	unq	Jul	103.0	103.0
May	111.5	111.5		Volume: 3	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES
WHEAT (close £/t)

May	144.50
Jun	145.70
Sep	108.75
Nov	110.40
Jan	113.30
Volume: 176	

BARLEY (close £/t)

May	139.80
Sep	106.75
Nov	109.35
Jan	112.25
Mar	113.45
Volume: 12	

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Jun	137.50
Aug	137.50
Oct	142.30
Dec	144.80
Feb	unq
Volume: 0	

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
May	51.1	53.5
Apr	95.0	94.5
May	unq	101.5
	Volume: 127	

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/kt)
Jun 56.00-56.50

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): Another day of thin liquidity, although physical barrels were looking over supplied.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.50	-0.10
Brent 15 day (May)	18.60	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Jun)	18.85	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	20.25	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	20.45	n/c

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	208 (n/c)	209 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	182 (-3)	183 (-4)
Non EEC 1H May	181 (-1)	182 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Jun	176 (-1)	177 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	76 (n/c)	78 (n/c)
Naphtha	179 (-1)	180 (-2)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd
GAS OIL

May	176.75-77.00	Aug	174.75-75.00
Jun	174.00-74.25	Sep	176.50-76.75
Jul	173.50-73.75	Oct	179.25-79.50
		Vol: 8252	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jun	18.84-18.85	Sep	19.02-19.03
Jul	18.86-18.87	Oct	19.06-19.07
Aug	18.95-18.98	Vol: 11880	

UNLEADED GASOLINE

May	203.50-05.00	Aug	n/a
Jun	204.50-07.00	Sep	n/a
Jul	n/a	Vol: 121	

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

Apr 93	High: 1540	Low: 1540	Close: 1538
May 93	1535	1525	1525
Jun 93	1420	1415	1423
Jul 93	1300	1292	1292

Vol: 228 lots. Open int'st: 2924 Index 1537 +7

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3 mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1188.0-1188.5	1209.0-1209.5	108575
Lead (£/tonne)	271.00-271.50	280.00-280.50	63850
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1011.0-1011.5	1030.0-1031.0	270200
Tin ($/tonne)	5575.0-5580.0	5635.0-5640.0	6900
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1109.5-1110.0	1132.5-1133.0	602725
Nickel ($/tonne)	6015.0-6020.0	6082.0-6083.0	42174

صكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

Portfolio Plus

From your Portfolio Plus card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Arjo Wiggins	Paper,Print	
2	Whitbread 'A'	Breweries	
3	Fenner	Industrial	
4	Br Vita	Industrial	
5	Ramsdens (H)	Leisure	
6	Kinross	Mining	
7	Parkland 'A'	Textiles	
8	British Gas	Oils, Gas	
9	Takeda Chem	Industrial	
10	Heavitree	Breweries	
11	Evered Bardon	Building,Rds	
12	NFC	Transport	
13	Siebe	Industrial	
14	Tarmac	Building,Rds	
15	FKI	Electrical	
16	Bridport-Gndry	Industrial	
17	Blacks Leis	Drapery,Strs	
18	Ashtead	Building,Rds	
19	LBMS Plc	Electrical	
20	GKN	Industrial	
21	Fullr Sm 'A'	Breweries	
22	Reuters	Industrial	
23	Druck	Electrical	
24	Barclays	Banks,Disc	
25	UniChem	Industrial	
26	Nat West	Banks,Disc	
27	Redland	Building,Rds	
28	Marks Spencer	Drapery,Strs	
29	Midstates	Industrial	
30	Grand Met	Breweries	
31	Moss Bros	Drapery,Strs	
32	Laser-Scan	Electrical	
33	Fiebe	Paper,Print	
34	Laing (J)	Building,Rds	
35	Glynwed	Industrial	
36	Rugby Group	Building,Rds	
37	Prudential	Insurance	
38	Courtaulds	Chems,Plas	
39	Yorkshire TV	Leisure	
40	Br Aerospace	Motors,Air	

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Please take into account any minus signs

£1,000 MATCH THE SHARES

If you have ticked off your eighth share in our Match The Shares game today, claim your prize by telephoning 0254 53272 between 10.00am and 3.30pm (see the *Sunday Times* for full details)

Two winners equally shared the Portfolio Plus prize of £2,000. They are Mr G Drake of Egham, Surrey and Mr T Betts of West Wickham, Kent.

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1625	1462½	Pochins	1462½	...	20.0	2.5	8.9
113	80	Prosteng	113	+ 3	3.4	3.8	...
6¾	4½	Quilligotte	4½	...	...	...	...
634	555	RMC Gp	641 †	- 7	20.0	3.9	...
117	90	Raine Ind	109½	...	8.0	7.5	16.8
36	30	Ramsay	31	...	...	...	...
490	405	Redland	442 †	+ 2	25.0	7.1	25.7
75	64	Rexlet	68 †	...	4.3	7.9	10.0
263	207	Rugby Group	267	+ 8	8.4	3.0	...
42	28	Sirtid-Rwcn	42	...	...	...	...
109	68	Sharpe & Fisher	97 †	- 1	4.0	5.1	...
172	110	Sheffield Inst	163	...	5.4	4.1	20.3
96	82	Sheriff Hidgs	96	...	...	2.6	14.5
78	56	Shorco A	75 †	- 7	...	8.7	...
228	205	Smart (J)	205	...	...	8.5	9.3
6¾	4½	Starmin	5½	...	...	0.3	7.1
142	103	Tarmac	141	+ 8	5.5	5.0	...
194	137	Tay Homes	187	...	4.8	3.9	11.9
119	87	Taylor Woodrow	114 †	- ½	1.0	1.2	...
533	433	Tilbury Douglas	513	...	33.0	8.4	...
24	19	Torex Hires	24	...	...	2.1	...
218	168	Travis Perkins	216	+ 3	8.0	4.9	...
36	30	Ty Group	36 †	+ 2	1.0	3.5	10.2
28	26	Tudor A	28 †	...	...	1.1	...
46	41	Vibroplant	43	- 4	3.6	7.1	11.6
41	30	Ward Hidgs	41	...	...	...	...
39	28	Warrenmere	39	...	...	...	...
475	360	Watts Blake	430	- 1	10.7	3.1	...
14	8	Wescol A	14	...	...	...	...
132	90	Westbury	126	- 1	...	4.8	...
12	4½	West Scottish A	9	...	...	...	...
12	5	Wiggins	9	...	...	...	...
461	371	Wilson Bowden	461 †	...	8.7	2.4	31.8
200	147	Wilson (C)	200	...	3.9	2.5	...
184	157	Wimpey G	178	...	5.2	3.7	...
42	25	YRM	40	...	4.0	...	4.9

BUSINESS SERVICES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
675	465	ADT	545	- 3	...	...	...
228	198	Adam & Harvey	213	...	11.0	6.5	5.3
62	56	Alf Lindsay	76	+ 1	...	5.9	9.2
50	37	African Lakes	44 †	...	2.0	3.7	...
178	125	Astro Sec	164 †	- 2	5.3	4.0	...
335	305	Bk Ireland Ut	325	...	...	17.0	6.5
140	116½	Bank Scotland	133	- ½	4.3	4.1	20.9
404	362	Barclays	438 †	+ 7	15.1	4.3	...
3½	2	Benchmark	2¾	...	...	...	...
52	31	Brown Shipley	45	...	...	...	...
19½	13½	Curtiste	19½	...	...	...	...
485	395	Exec Allen	485	...	26.0	6.7	...
11p	8½	Curles	11p	...	...	4.5	15.4
2450	1787½	Chase Manh	1870½	+10½	...	...	...
2043½	1343½	Citicorp	1625 †	-112½	...	...	...
345	250	Close Bros	331	+ 3	...	3.6	14.7
£125½	9275	Commerzbk	£119	-137½	...	3.3	...
£304½	£250½	Deutsche Bk	£270½	-50	...	2.3	...
81	45	First Nat Fin	71	+ 5	...	...	...
1227	876	Fuji Bank Y	1170	...	...	0.4	63.0
453	343	Gerrard Nat	453	...	...	21.0	5.8
654	498	HSBC	612	- 3	19.0	3.9	...
654	474	HSBC HK	598	- 3	19.0	4.0	...
356	263	Hambros	342	- 2	12.8	3.7	15.2
363	313	Joseph (L)	358	...	...	15.8	5.5
127	9p	King Shaxson	127	...	...	5.0	4.9
402	312	Kleinwort Ben	402	+ 1	16.0	5.0	13.9
572	492	Lloyds	534	+11	18.4	4.3	15.3
67	63	Lon Scot Bk	66	...	...	3.0	4.4
432	322	Nat Aust Bk	405	...	...	5.4	13.1
485	398	Nat West	473	+ 5	17.5	4.6	28.7
801	674	Provident	801	+ 3	28.5	4.1	14.9
47	39	Rea Bros	41	...	6.5	1.5	43.6
274	227	Ryl Bk Scot	261½	...	8.8	4.2	...
1495	1335	Schroders	1450	...	22.0	1.5	18.4
754	576	Stand Chart	754	- 5	20.0	3.3	...
198	145½	TSB	187	+ 2	6.4	4.3	...
125	78	Union Disc	123	...	...	...	...
674	529	Warburg SG	664	- 7	18.0	3.4	19.7
227	185	-do- 6% 'A'	224	- 1	...	3.3	...
7650	4843½	Wells Fargo	6475 †	-309½	...	1.6	...
163	121	Westpac	153	...	...	...	...
215	188	Winmar	205	...	9.3	5.7	7.9

BREWERIES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
646	547	Allied-Lyons	587	+ 6	20.0	4.3	13.6
647	553	Bass	594	+ 6	19.0	4.3	12.9
299	189	Boddington	299	+ 3	7.3	3.5	15.1
415	362	Bulmer (HP)	404	- 1	9.0	2.8	18.6
159	129	Burtonwd Brw	140	...	4.4	4.0	10.2
307	261	Devenish (JA)	304	+ 1	7.8	3.2	17.1
98	75	Eldridge P 'A'	95	...	...	4.1	7.2
68p	54½	Fullers Sm 'A'	58	+ 4	...	...	7.3
378	338	Fullr Sm 'A'n	378	+ 4	...	2.2	15.9
480	411	Grand Met	476	+ 4	12.3	2.6	14.0
483	388	Greenalls Gp	419	+ 3	11.7	2.8	15.9
563	505	Greene King	554	...	13.6	2.6	14.4
516	440	Guinness	474 †	...	...	3.1	16.9
281	230	Hardy Hansn	247	+ 8	7.9	4.0	13.7
113	108	Heavitree	110	+ 2	5.0	3.5	29.4
98	78	-do- 'A' 11½%	95	+ 17	3.0	4.0	22.8
299	255	Highland Dist	289 †	+ 1	6.0	2.6	19.2
3125	2538	Holt J	3000	...	41.0	1.7	...
56	33	Hoskins Brew	56	...	...	...	49.3
332	250	Invygordn Dist	272	...	7.0	3.2	...
186	157	Macallan-Glen	162 †	+ 5	0.9	0.7	30.4
465	375	Macdn Marn 'A'	375	...	...	8.8	2.9
740	655	Mansfield	730	...	...	13.6	2.3
266	231	Morton Thmp	266	...	...	12.5	14.3
436	412	Matthew Clark	422	...	...	15.7	4.7
300	255	Mrydwn W	260	- 3	...	3.0	18.8
490	455	Morland	480	...	...	8.4	2.2
11	9½	Paramount A	10½	...	...	...	...
980	763	SA Breweries	813	...	...	...	...
482½	408	Scot & New	466	+ 2	...	16.1	4.3
281	181	Taunton Cider	262	+ 2	...	...	2.9
342	213	Vaux Group	327	+ 3	...	9.3	2.3
344	225	Wadworth 'A'	262	+ 3	...	4.3	21.2
497½	435	Whitbread 'A'	472	+ 3	...	16.9	4.5
1180	850	-do- 'B'	875	...	...	16.9	2.4
613	561	Wolverhmpton D	566	+ 1	...	11.4	2.5
515	480	Young 'A'	480	...	...	14.5	3.8

BUILDING, ROADS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
115	73	Abbey	115	...	...	...	1.2
17	13	Albrighton A	17	...	...	...	...
108	87	Allen	96	- 1	...	6.5	10.8
99	65	Amec	97 †	- 2	3.0	3.0	...
6½	4	Anglia Sec	8	+ ½	...	...	...
188	155	Ashtead	188	+ 5	4.1	2.8	23.3
142	108	Ashwoods	114	...	5.0	5.6	16.2
238	180	BPB Ind	229	+ 3	...	4.1	58.2
69	57	Baggeridge Brk	68	...	...	3.1	4.4
31	18	Bailey (Nen) Con	28½	...	0.5	...	...
101	74	Barcon	86	+ 1	1.2	1.8	15.6
146	94	Barratt Devs	139	- 5	2.0	1.8	15.5
412	306	Bellway	411	...	11.5	3.5	23.6
22	15	Bellwinch	20	...	...	...	1.8
422	365½	Berkeley Gp	421	...	...	...	29.0
63	45	Bett Bros	58	...	...	...	2.4
46	36	Blockleys	43	+ 1	1.0	2.6	...
250	180	Blue Circle	243 †	+ 1	11.2	5.8	...
282	230	Boot (Henry)	281	...	5.9	2.7	...
70	58	Brendon PLC	69 †	- 2	4.6	6.5	...
105	82	Br Dredging	103 †	...	5.2	6.3	22.9
85	70	Brit Fittings	85	+ 3	1.5	2.9	...
149	99	Bryant	142	- 2	4.8	4.2	30.4
75	53	CALA	75	+ 3	2.3	...	...
363	305	CRH	351	...	...	...	3.7
43	22	Calednread Rby	33	...	...	...	...
30	25	Cousin	34	...	...	...	...
136	40	Cunnyngsde	131	- 5	4.1	3.9	34.6
63	38	Crest Nicholson	59	- 2	0.0	...	...
75	28	Cyrnics	75	...	...	...	...
3½	1½	Danton A	1½	...	...	...	...
25	16½	Edmond Hidgs	21	...	...	0.5	3.0
213	178	Epwin	211	+10	6.0	4.1	...
48	32	Erith	47	...	...	0.3	0.9
345	252	Eve Groupe A	345	...	...	...	3.5
52	34	Evered Bardon	51 †	+ 3	2.0	4.9	23.0
9½	4½	Explasmna	4½	...	...	...	...
140	97	Fitzroyal Gps	137	- 2	...	4.7	...
50	38	Galliford	42½	+ 2½	4.3	...	17.1
78	65	Gibbs & Dandy	68	...	...	...	...
785	695	Gleeson (M)	785	- 7	12.7	2.0	12.7
116	90	Hawdon-Stuart	114½	...	...	3.2	3.5
50	38	Hemerson	50	...	...	2.6	...
280	186	Heywd Wm	276	- 4	12.5	5.7	...
85	37	Higgs & Hill	79	...	2.5	4.0	...
36	27	How Gp	20	...	1.5	6.8	...
19	15	Howard Hidgs	18	...	0.5	3.5	...
62	39	Hsuck Johnsen	62	...	1.0	2.0	...
22	14½	Inrfit	21	...	0.5	...	...
277	196	Laing (J)	277	+ 2	9.0	4.1	...
83	55	Lo Clydesdale A	66	...	4.5	8.5	24.9
23	10½	Lovell (C)	23	...	...	...	10.4
306	240	Manders	299	+ 2	9.0	3.8	18.3
136	93	Marley	136	...	4.2	3.0	30.9
76	61	Marshalls	75	...	...	8.3	25.1
141	122	Maunders (J)	141	...	4.9	4.4	12.9
189	96	McAlpine (A)	186	...	6.5	4.4	32.3
38	25	McCarthy & S	32½	...	0.5	0.1	...

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
363	284	Meyer Int	362	+14	16.5	5.7	37.3
4	4	Mikata Gps A	4	...	...	...	...
114	82	Mowlem (J)	114 †	...	4.0	4.4	...
78	62	MSM	63	...	...	...	...
53	48	Needler A	48	...	...	4.0	21.4
152	106	Newman Tnks	145	+ 1	...	6.9	19.4
286	197	Persimmon	282	...	8.6	3.8	28.8
26	22	Phoenix Timber	23	...	...	...	...
1625	1462½	Pochins	1462½	...	20.0	2.5	8.9
113	80	Prosteng	113	+ 3	3.4	3.8	...
6¾	4½	Quilligotte	4½	...	...	...	...
634	555	RMC Gp	641 †	- 7	20.0	3.9	...
117	90	Raine Ind	109½	...	8.0	7.5	16.8
36	30	Ramsay	31	...	...	...	...
490	405	Redland	442 †	+ 2	25.0	7.1	25.7
75	64	Rexlet	68 †	...	4.3	7.9	10.0
263	207	Rugby Group	267	+ 8	8.4	3.0	...
42	28	Svrtid-Rwcn	42	...	...	...	...
109	68	Sharpe & Fisher	97 †	- 1	4.0	5.1	...
172	110	Sheffield Inst	163	...	5.4	4.1	20.3
96	82	Sheriff Hidgs	96	...	...	2.6	14.5
78	56	Shorco A	75 †	- 7	...	8.7	...
228	205	Smart (J)	205	...	8.5	5.1	9.3
6¾	4½	Starmin	5½	...	0.3	7.1	6.3
142	103	Tarmac	141	+ 8	5.5	5.0	...
194	137	Tay Homes	187	...	4.8	3.9	11.9
119	87	Taylor Woodrow	114 †	- ½	1.0	1.2	...
533	433	Tilbury Douglas	513	...	33.0	8.4	...
24	19	Torex Hires	24	...	...	2.1	...
218	168	Travis Perkins	216	+ 3	8.0	4.9	...
36	30	Ty Group	36 †	+ 2	1.0	3.5	10.2
28	26	Tudor A	28 †	...	...	1.1	...
46	41	Vibroplant	43	- 4	3.6	7.1	11.6
41	30	Ward Hidgs	41	...	...	...	...
39	28	Warrenmere	39	...	...	...	...
475	360	Watts Blake	430	- 1	10.7	3.1	...
14	8	Wescol A	14	...	...	...	...
132	90	Westbury	126	- 1	...	4.8	...
12	4½	West Scottish A	9	...	...	...	...
12	5	Wiggins	9	...	...	...	...
461	371	Wilson Bowden	461 †	...	8.7	2.4	31.8
200	147	Wilson (C)	200	...	3.9	2.5	...
184	157	Wimpey G	178	...	5.2	3.7	...
42	25	YRM	40	...	4.0	...	4.9

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
248	225	Allied Colloids	227	...	3.9	2.1	18.0
759	613	Amersham	701	- 1	12.5	2.2	26.0
7	4	Anglo Ind	4	...	0.8	...	...
£101½	£325	BASF Dtd	0387%	- 9½	...	7.4	17.5
260	236	BTP	259	...	8.0	4.6	17.5
£119	£104½	Bayer DM50	£107%	-75	...	5.3	...
173	134	Bibgdon	170	- 3	9.5	7.0	18.3
165	137	Brent Chems	147	...	7.4	6.3	...
530	428	Br Bio-Tech	450	...	...	...	...
29	18	Caird Gp	24	...	1.3	6.9	...
153	127	Canning (W)	128 †	- 1	7.2	7.1	14.7
608	533½	Courtaulds	557	+ 4	13.0	2.9	15.1
281	228	Croda	281 †	...	7.756	3.4	...
146	121	Docdfer	128	...	4.6	4.5	9.8
232	175	Ellis & Everard	200	...	7.0	4.4	18.2
28	15½	Euro Colour	22½	...	0.6	3.6	...
291	250	Halstead (J)	285	...	...	2.6	14.3
226	194	Hickson	226 †	+ 3	8.0	4.4	...
£114½	8850	Hoechst	9600	...	...	8.2	...
216	195	Holliday Chem	213	- 1	...	2.2	19.6
1288	1043	ICI	1224	+ 3	55.0	5.6	20.7
668	581	Laporte	662	- 11	19.5	3.6	...
223	190	Leigh	192	- 1	7.8	5.1	15.7
19½	11	MTM	11½	- ½	1.8	...	2.3
1600	1462½	Novsk Hydro	1600	...	...	1.8	...
420	370	Rencon Tech	419	...	11.4	3.6	18.1
375	360	-do- 'A'	369	...	11.4	3.9	15.9
286	254	Plysu	268	...	6.0	2.8	18.1
210	173	Povair	208	...	3.6	2.3	22.2
13	9½	Scottlife Speak	10	...	...	...	...
478	420	Wardle Storeys	445 †	...	16.0	4.5	17.9
450	395	Wiltshire R	448 †	...	17.0	4.7	...
391	368	Yorks Chem	390	- 1	...	2.5	20.9
306	240	Yule Catto	295#	- ½	5.0	2.5	...

DRAPERY, STORES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
105	65	Alexon	96	- 3	3.0	3.9	...
87	42	Amber Day	79	- 4	3.1	5.0	21.4
319	257	Argos Plc	310	...	...	2.8	21.3
104	69	Ashley (Laura)	102	...	0.1	0.1	...
305	280	Aspreys	280	...	...	2.1	23.0
243	188	Austin Reed	243	+ 3	5.0	2.6	...
153	125	Bemlin (J) 'A'	141	...	5.7	5.1	13.5
121	97	Bernalls	111	- 1	1.9	2.2	...
273	228	Bensonwest	253	...	0.6	34.0	...
31	22	Blacks Leis	26	+ 3	1.3	...	5.4
227	133	Body Shop	211	- 3	1.6	0.9	24.4
15½	12	Brown & Jackson	15½	- ½	...	0.6	...
401	318	Brown (N)	359	...	6.0	2.1	22.3
84	64½	Burton	83½	...	...	3.0	...
145	126	Canture	144	...	...	2.3	19.1
355	295	Church	355	...	12.5	4.4	31.6
183	97	Clinton Cards	157 †	...	4.2	3.4	...
267	212	Coats Viyella	238	...	...	3.8	26.1
106	78	Colemn'sMelin	88	...	...	...	14.9
485	374	Courts Furnish	485	...	5.0	1.3	24.3
155	115	Crown Eyes	135	...	...	5.6	6.3
106	69	Dalry Farm Int	98	...	...	3.0	...
65	51½	Dewhirst (JJ)	63 †	...	1.0	2.0	12.1
281	194½	Dixons Grp	216	- ½	6.0	3.5	25.4
390	320	Dunhill	388	...	7.7	2.5	13.4
21	12½	ERA Gp	14	...	...	...	...
530	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	450	...	16.0	3.2	34.0
115	71	Essex Farm	101	- 2	...	3.4	17.1
234	203	Exam	234	+ 1	6.9	3.8	...
552	499	Fine Art Dev	549	- 2	11.0	2.5	21.1
50	26	Fred Perry Thos	38	...	...	...	...
498	398	Formiester	498	...	12.5	3.1	10.4
51	24	French Conn A	50	...	...	...	...
47	21	Gebbletde	43	...	...	2.0	8.6
65	43	Gent SR	49	...	...	2.0	5.1
59	29	Goldsmiths Gp	58	...	...	1.8	10.0
2813	2600	GUS	2813	+48	40.0	1.7	23.2
1728	1563	-do- 'A'	1694	+ 6	40.0	3.0	13.5
40	34	Hampden Grps	35 †	- 1	...	3.6	...
237	98	Harrisons	103	- 9	...	4.8	...
29	20	Helene Fin	21 †	...	...	2.0	12.0
42	29	Hettigps	39	...	...	...	...
62	35	Honeysuckles	58	...	...	2.2	8.2
188	128	Hse of Lerose	186	+ 7	10.3	6.9	...
67	49	Jaeger 'AT'	67	+ 7	5.0	...	...
604	496	Kingfisher	600	- 4	...	2.9	17.0
74	62½	Leslie Wint Gp	69½	- 1½	4.0	7.3	14.1
685	495	Liberty	655	- 5	7.2	1.1	...
318	265	Lloyds Chem	318	...	8.5	2.2	12.5
152	120	MFI	138	- 3	...	3.4	18.4
360	311	Marks Spencer	354	+ 3	7.1	2.5	21.5
500	445	Mcnzies (John)	497	...	10.0	2.5	16.5
174	138	Moss Bros	174	...	5.5	3.2	...
194	174	Next	187½	+ 1½	2.5	1.3	...
30	15	Oliver (G)	30	...	...	...	...
260	197	Oxfiame Ind	215	...	...	5.0	14.0
63	45	Penna	61	+ 1	1.5	2.5	20.3
313	255	QS Holdings	287	...	...	5.1	2.3
24½	11	Raimes Group	24½	...	0.5	2.4	12.6
35	20½	Rhino Grps	31½	...	...	...	...
174	137	Sherwood Gp	171 †	...	7.6	1.9	...
128	96	Sears	126	- 3	2.5	4.3	...
498	400	Smith WH 'A'	439	- 4	13.4	3.8	15.5
4½	2½	Specialeyes	4	...	...	...	...
219	176	Stornbooker	207	+ 1	9.0	4.3	...
217	153	T & S Stores	154 †	- 2	5.9	4.8	11.5
133	71	Tie Rack	126	- 7	1.0	1.0	...
213	160	Time Products	200	...	7.5	4.7	19.6
100	63	Usher (Frank)	90	- 2	...	0.9	7.7
45	27	Vivas	36	...	1.0	3.5	11.1
40	35	Wensums	38	...	...	6.3	...
111	78	Wickes	111	+ 2	...	...	49.2
60	45	Wld of Leathers	51	...	...	...	...
191	146	Wyevale	191	...	...	2.6	...
4	2½	Xtra-vision	4	...	...	...	3.9

ELECTRICALS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
182	147	ACT Group	158	+ 5	4.5	3.6	15.6
238	223	Acal	238	...	...	3.1	10.9
162½	38	Acorn Comps	103	- 1	...	...	50.7
480	385	Admiral	444	...	5.4	1.5	18.8
131	104	Alba	130	...	4.7	4.6	17.1
43	19½	Alphameric	37	...	...	...	...
38½	22	Amstrad	33½	...	0.4	...	...
128	78	App Holds	114	...	...	...	...
177	113	Arlec	141	...	...	...	...
53½	35½	Astec	52½	...	...	...	...
280	250	Beales Hunter	279	...	9.2	4.1	14.7
9	7½	Bennett & Fouls	9	...	...	...	...
381	319	BICC	358 †	- 3	19.2	5.7	24.3
575	455	Blick	483	...	9.2	2.4	18.8
1650	1150	Borland e	1400	-50	...	...	...
319	274	Bowthorpe	308	...	6.3	2.6	...
445½	376	BT	416	+ 5	14.4	4.3	15.5
9	5½	Baigin (AF) 'A'	7½	...	0.1	1.7	...
151	110	Burnfield	142	...	4.0	2.8	17.2
760	689	Cable Wireless	702	- 5	13.2	2.4	21.7
14½	11½	Chloride	12½	...	...	...	...
251	228	CMI Micro e	250	...	...	2.4	10.5
98	74	Comptr People	95	...	0.6	0.6	...
151	108½	Cray Elect	148	+ 1	...	2.4	22.2
326	263	Crmchley	313	...	...	2.1	14.0
489	414	Delta	488	+ 1	14.0	3.6	...
288	205	Dennards Hse	285	...	...	2.7	15.1
630	460	Domino	515	- 2	7.2	1.7	17.6
65	51½	Dowth

As the fate of the *Observer* once more hangs in the balance, three experts give their views on the newspaper's future

The case for The Guardian

The speed of events in Fleet Street never ceases to astonish. It was only 13 years ago that Tiny Rowland of Lonrho was considered a possible buyer of Times Newspapers. He denied any interest but bought the *Observer* instead. Now there is a serious possibility that debt-ridden Lonrho may sell its loss-making paper to *The Independent* for £12-20 million plus a 15 per cent shareholding in its parent company, the Newspaper Publishing Company headed by Andreas Whittam Smith. Merger into *The Independent on Sunday* would then be its obvious fate.

Should anyone be particularly interested apart from the staff? Many readers are losing interest; circulation has declined from around 900,000 in 1981 to some 500,000 today; its pathetic pursuit of Tiny Rowland's vendetta with the Fayed brothers over Harrods has sullied its good name; the magazine's inclusion of soft-porn pictures of Madonna has damaged any claim to good taste: constant re-vamps have diminished interest in its style.

Nonetheless I for one am appalled at the thought of closure. It would silence for ever one of the few voices in the press just left of centre, even if it has been a little quavery of late. It would reduce the quality of arts coverage in our national press. It would shut off the tap of shrewd economic analysis on its business pages. And it would end the steady stream of investigative stories that enliven its news pages. Above all a continuous existence for 200 years has given the *Observer* a patina of authority and a role in the democratic process that is denied to any newspaper, however inventive, that has been around for less than a decade.

Of course there is a possibility of survival. *The Guardian* has put in a solid bid and would use all its resources to keep the *Observer* afloat. Peter Preston, the editor, has shown that despite being in the editorial chair of *The Guardian* since 1975 he is still a sparkling innovator: his second tabloid section has proved a brilliant success. The whole editorial philosophy of the paper is congenial to the *Observer*. No one can doubt that the existing staff of the *Observer* would not only be relieved but positively re-inspired by a shift in ownership to the Scott Trust.

> The *Observer's* long existence has given it a patina of authority

This trust was established in 1936 to fend off the attentions of the Inland Revenue and the possible ambitions of Lord Beaverbrook. It was re-constituted in 1948 with the same ultimate aim, namely to ensure that the paper continues "on the same lines and in the same spirit as heretofore". But as the sole owner of the paper the trust is not allowed to compete with Whittam Smith by offering to sell shares or options or a partnership. This seems to have given an edge to *The Independent* group so far as Lonrho is concerned.

Hopes for the survival of the *Observer* thus appear to rest with the intervention of the Monopolies Commission. But if Lonrho were to convince Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, that it could no longer support the *Observer*'s losses and needed as much money as it could get for its own survival, he might allow the deal to go ahead on free market grounds, without any such reference. It may be recalled that in the days of Margaret Thatcher's premiership, John Biffen, then trade secretary, appeared to give only cursory consideration to the prospects of *The Sunday Times* surviving on its own and waved through the Murdoch bid for Times Newspapers with all speed.

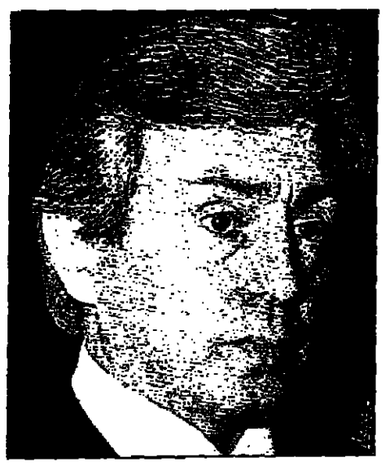
Today the situation is different. *The Guardian* bid is not too far below that of its rivals. And even if the effect on employment is seen as of no importance, the effect on the public interest cannot so easily be disregarded. It is true that a Guardian-controlled *Observer* might generally be numbered among the critics of Conservative government but in the interests of free speech in a democratic society it would be seen as exceptionally self-serving if Mr Heseltine waved through a deal that would silence a political opponent. He made a hash of handling the original mine closure programme. He should be exceptionally careful to see that the public interest is properly safeguarded this time.

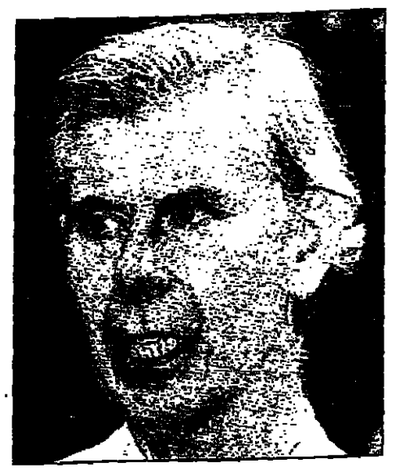
CHARLES WINTOUR

● *The author is a former editor of the* Evening Standard

BATTLE OF THE SUNDAYS — MARCH '93

Paper	Av Sun sale	Compared Feb '93	%+/-	Compared Mar '92	%+/-	% Mkt share Quality	% Mkt share All titles
S Times	1,264,142	11,085	0.88	81,866	6.92	46.31	7.87
Observer	504,331	-16,078	-3.09	-41,247	-7.56	18.48	3.14
S Telegraph	573,641	-8,481	-1.46	16,313	2.93	21.02	3.57
Independent	387,511	-13,493	-3.36	2,222	0.56	14.20	2.41









The players: clockwise from top left, Donald Trelford, Andreas Whittam Smith, Tiny Rowland and a leading article carried by the *Observer* last Sunday

Merger makes sense

Assuming that the supply of megalomaniacs has dried up, the two contenders for the dubious prize of the *Observer* are *The Independent* and *The Guardian*. What is in it for them?

The former has the more obvious economic case. *The Independent on Sunday* is in desperate competition with the *Observer* for bottom place in a quality Sunday market which cannot support four profitable titles. A merger could well produce a journal with a circulation around 700,000, a comfortable second in its market with every expectation of making profits.

For *The Guardian* there is probably some gain in linking directly a daily paper with a compatible Sunday. *The Guardian* and *Observer* form an excellent match with good opportunities for cost savings, although only if the *Observer* in practice is completely subsumed into *The Guardian*'s operations. But the Sunday quality market would stay as before, with the new *Observer* and *Independent* competing even more bitterly and expensively for the crumbs from *The Sunday Times*' table.

The special pleading of journalists about the great history and unique qualities of the *Observer* has now crystallised into a simple slogan: "Guardian good, Independent bad." Lacking any genuine economic rationale, the Monopolies Commission has always tended to be swayed by this type of bleating. If it therefore rejected *The Independent*'s bid, Lonrho would probably be so desperate to rid itself of the demoralised *Observer* that it would accept an offer from *The Guardian* far below the rumoured £20 million. That would gain *The Guardian* in the short term a splendid capitalist victory, but, considering the ferocity of the quality Sunday market, one which could eventually prove to be pyrrhic.

HAROLD LIND

● *The author is a media analyst*

Where ethics beat politics

At the height of his reputation as editor and (in all but name) proprietor of the *Observer*, David Astor circulated a memo to his small staff entitled "On the Soul of the Paper". In it he stipulated that "ethics matter more than politics". That was 1959, three years after Astor had assailed the Suez invasion with the unvarnished words: "We had not realised that our Government was capable of such folly and crookedness."

After 202 years, the future of the *Observer* is now in jeopardy, and there is the wringing of hands and the familiar invocation of democracy in peril that goes up whenever a Fleet Street title is threatened.

More than most, *Observer* journalists believe theirs is an important voice, and their beloved paper a vulnerable barque tossed on perilous seas. the *Observer*'s survival, they argue, is too important to be left to the whim of a proprietor or the harsh forces of the market place.

In these moments of hazard, and in 20 years as a member of the *Observer* staff I lived through at least three comparable crises, there is a tendency to turn to the distinguished past as a justification for a continuing future. The paper itself on Sunday cited the commitment made in the first issue in 1791 to be "unbiased by prejudice, uninfluenced by party".

Of course, every effort must be made to save the *Observer*, but for what it might again become rather than for either a glorious past or a diminished present. I quote Astor, not out of nostalgia, but because his *Observer* had an agenda, a reason for existence beyond simply appearing each Sunday. At home it stood for such liberal reform as ending the death penalty, and abroad for colonial freedom and vigilance against totalitarianism. The paper set forth a moral agenda for a decent world.

To work there, even as a young reporter, was to feel part of a purpose. The holy grail was the truth, and the medium elegant writing.

Astor was not infallible. Before he retired in 1975, his post-war agenda had been fulfilled and he had grown too removed from a changing world to devise a new blueprint.

For four years, with Donald Trelford now at the helm, the *Observer* enjoyed the protection and absentee ownership of an American oil company. When, inevitably, it lost interest, Tiny Rowland and Lonrho moved in. A worried staff mobilised, and we scurried to the then industry secretary, John Biffen, who referred the sale to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. We got the best deal going, and a board of independent directors who may yet save the title.

But the constant battle for survival and the antagonism felt by many journalists for Lonrho took their toll. There was no new agenda comparable to Astor's vision: the great opportunity to oppose Thatcherism, consistently and constructively, was squandered.

There is a tendency to be mesmerised by *The Sunday Times* dating back to Astor's last days. But it is not the role of the *Observer* to be all things to all readers. At its best it is a nippy and well-armed frigate sent to sea gainst a great galleon. Its market remained: the *Observer* was simply not satisfying it.

Britain has seldom been as confused as now. The need for coherent and well-articulated voices from left of centre has never been greater.

There is no argument for sustaining the present leadership of the *Observer*; the old lags have had their chance. There is, however, every argument for its survival as a revitalised journal of clear thinking and accurate and stylish reporting. Ethics still matter more than politics.

ROBERT CHESSHYRE

● *The author is a former executive and writer on the* Observer.

Now for the bad news ...

Why doesn't the BBC broadcast more good news? **Martyn Lewis** examines how old values die hard

'Why is the news so gloomy ... why don't you give us more good news" — questions raised with depressing regularity on virtually every occasion when television people brush with their viewers in the world outside "the box".

Some old assumptions about television news need to be firmly challenged, not least because of the huge growth in the power of the medium. Research in Britain and America shows that some 80 per cent of the population regard television news as their primary source of information.

We are, increasingly, shaping the psyche of the nation — conditioning the mood in which people go to bed at night, and the frame of mind with which they face each day. That imposes upon us a responsibility to present a more accurate mirror image of the balance of events and issues that affect our viewers and the world in which they live.

News editors across the world — in newspapers as well as television — stress the need for young reporters to hunt for conflict and criticism. If they don't find it, fewer of their stories are used. So the need to be productive, to please, and to see their work on air, leads the newcomers rapidly into old habits. And so another generation of journalists is innocently infected with the old set of standards and judgments. Try to sell any TV news editor a story of success or achievement. Unless it is a relatively "slow" news day, reactions range from "Sorry, no room" to "Not a puff for that" or, grudgingly, "We're looking a bit thin — it might make a couple of lines."

> The bigger the tragedy, the more weight it gets

You quickly find out that it is always the Good News stories that are demoted or dropped if there is any pressure on time or space. Judgments on the relative value of news stories have, on the whole, come to be based on the extent to which things go wrong. The bigger the scale of the tragedy, the greater the images of the disaster, the more weight and prominence it acquires. So success is permanently demoted on the news agenda — and, over a period of time, there is a relentless drip-feed into the viewer's mind that we live in a society where achievement takes a back seat to conflict, disaster and failure.

Our proper desire not to fall victim to the world of PR has developed into such a high degree of scepticism that it makes us overly dismissive of stories that illustrate the positive side of life. There are other factors at work too. Let me give you examples — from my own professional experience — of the kind of news stories that have disappeared from our daily television diet. Two years ago, the workforce of the Rover Car company held a vote on the management's plan to introduce Japanese-style working practices. A decision to reject the plan would almost certainly have triggered a video report on the main evening news. But, by a narrow majority, the plan was accepted: we did not run the story at all. And yet that vote was crucial in laying the foundation for the company's current success.

Last month, another car company, Vauxhall, reported pre-tax profits of £223 million — up by 69 per cent on the previous year. Not reported.

Even when positive stories are covered, note how much less emphasis they are often given. On April 9, 1990, Ford switched production from Bridgend and Swansea to two factories in Germany because of "the unreliability of the supply of parts". TV news produced a two-minute video report on that. But just four days earlier, when Vauxhall chose Port Talbot for a £160 million investment in preference to Germany, that merited a mere forty seconds.

● *An edited extract from a speech given in Los Angeles yesterday by the BBC newscaster.*

Viewers pillory BBC chief over secret, but tax-efficient, pay deal

Birt falls out of favour

Public confidence in the BBC has been severely shaken by the dispute over the tax affairs of John Birt, the corporation's director-general, according to a poll conducted for *The Times* by the market research organisation MORI.

The findings show that more than one in three people believe that the BBC is not a well-managed organisation, compared with about one in five people in January — before the disclosure that Mr Birt was avoiding tax on his pay from the corporation by working as a freelance.

The latest results, based on a survey carried out three weeks after the disclosures of Mr Birt's pay arrangements, show a 10.5 per cent swing away from confidence in the BBC's management. The figures represent an embarrassment for the corporation as they coincide with reports this week that Mr Birt has asked for a pay rise of between £40,000 and £55,000.

Mr Birt, who was employed on a freelance contract for six years as deputy director-general, announced his intention to join the staff of the BBC on March 1, but has still not signed a contract.

Robert Worcester, the chairman of MORI, says that the findings show that the disclosures about Mr Birt's tax position have had remarkable resonance with the public as the number of people who did not have an opinion on the BBC management fell significantly in the second survey.

"The change from 21 per cent of people thinking the BBC is not well managed at the end of January to 35 per cent at the end of March is just fantastic. You very rarely see such a big change in public opinion over such a short period of time," he says.

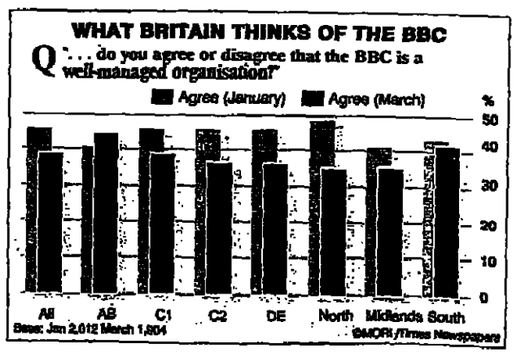
A breakdown of the results show that the BBC has lost confidence most among lower social classes, people who live in the Midlands and the North of England, women and those aged over 55 years.

Whereas 45 per cent of respondents in the lower DE socio-economic bracket agreed that the corporation was well managed in January, only 36 per cent did in March. Similarly, support for the way the BBC is run from people questioned in the North of England fell from 48 per cent to 35 per cent over the same period.

In the AB socio-economic class, however, support for the BBC's management actually rose from 42 to 44 per cent, possibly indicating that some younger professionals living in the South of England approved of the "tax efficiency" of the director-general's financial arrangements.

ALEXANDRA FREAN

● *MORI interviewed 2,012 adults from January 21-25 for a poll commissioned by* Reader's Digest. *It questioned 1,904 adults between March 25-29 for* The Times.



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THEATRE page 30
James Wilby is too cool and English as Joseph K in The Trial at the Young Vic

ARTS

TELEVISION page 31
Morecambe's peer? Lynne Truss reviews a profile of the comedian Ernie Wise



Rodney Milnes on the plans for the new regime's first season at English National Opera

Silver lining in St Martin's Lane

Opera being what it is — planned anything up to four years ahead — there can be something slightly bogus about a new regime announcing its first season. After all, much of what they announce must already have been in place. That is less true than usual about the English National Opera's 1993-4 plans, unveiled yesterday by the new general director, Dennis Marks, and the new music director, Sian Edwards.

For a start, ENO has always been a more flexible operation than your average international opera house. New productions can be, and have been, slotted in at a few months notice. And following the dramatic mass resignation of the Peter Jonas/Mark Elder/David Pountney team two years ago, there is a sense of a clean break with the past, of a new era dawning.

That sense is sharpened by the peculiarly *Götterdämmerung*-ish aura surrounding the last weeks of the departing regime in its self-styled "Power House". Falling box-office receipts, an accumulated deficit of over £2 million, controversy over what is perceived (not altogether justifiably) as a confrontational and possibly even outmoded house production style, all contribute to a desire on both sides of the footlights for a fresh start.

Yet the new season strikes a nice balance between continuity — Elder and Pountney are both returning — and renewal. Only three of the seven new productions were engraved in stone before the change of regime, and elsewhere Marks and Edwards have enjoyed considerable freedom in choice of production teams, revivals and casting. Edwards was engaged to conduct the season's first new staging, *Bohème*, in September, long before her appointment as music director. It will be directed by Steven Pimlott, familiar from the National Theatre, the West End and many opera houses in Europe, but astonishingly enough making his Coliseum debut, along with his designer Tobias Hoheisel.

The *Lohengrin* that follows in November is conducted by Elder, with the trusted team of Tim Albery, Hildegard Bechtler and Nicky Gillibrand (ENO *Grimes*, Opera North *Carlos*), and is the company's first stab at a new Wagner production since the Ken Russell *Tannhäuser* was aborted five years ago. Pountney returns the following month with Smetana's *The Two Widows*, a favourite piece of his (and mine) that he has directed at Wexford and in Glasgow.

Jonathan Miller — another link with the past — returns for a new *Rosenkavalier* in February with the formidable cast of Anne Evans, John Tomlinson, Sally Burgess and Rosemary Joshua, and conducted by the equally formidable Jakov Kreizberg, who set the Downs on fire with his *Jenufa* at Glyndebourne last year. This should be anything but cream-puff Strauss.

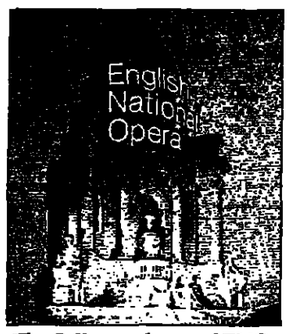
Plans for the remaining three new productions were less long-laid. Judith Weir's *Blond Eckbert* (a working title) will be premiered on April 20; it is not quite finished, and casting is still to be announced, but it will be conducted by Edwards and produced by Tim Hopkins, another Coliseum debutant. The new *Così fan tutte* in May 1994, conducted by Nicholas Kok, is a bit of a surprise, a fruit of Marks's investigation of halfway houses between new productions and revivals. This will contain elements of the old designs, but everything else will be new, including the producer Nicolette Molnar and her designer Jacqui Gunn. (At this stage in proceedings, those of sexist bent might remark admiringly on the number of women involved in the season. But I'm not, so I won't.)

Just as the opening *Bohème* is planned as the first of a series renewing the Puccini repertoire (a *Trittico* is rumoured for the not too distant future), so the new *Jenufa* in June 1994 will herald a new look at Janáček. It will be conducted by Edwards, with Josephine Barstow singing her first Kostelnička, and with producer and designer (Lucy Bailey and Simon Vincenzi) new to the house.

The notion of another Janáček cycle is a bold one: the Welsh/Scottish effort is barely cold in its grave, and Glyndebourne is in the middle of its own. For the ENO to launch theirs with the Janáček opera that as far as London is concerned has "belonged" to Covent Garden since 1956 is agreeably saucy. Doubtless the Arts Council's famed clash committee will keep an eye on this, but if every opera company in the country plays Puccini, why shouldn't they all play Janáček as well?



Sian Edwards, the new music director of English National Opera, in the Coliseum pit: four other conductors will be making their house debut next season



The Coliseum, home of ENO: there is "a new era dawning"

The 11 revivals strike an equally fine balance between the old and the new. The season opens on August 26 with the Alden/Fielding *Simon Boccanegra*, with Alexander Rahbari making his debut in the pit and Gregory Yurisich in the title role. *Street Scene*, a box-office draw nowadays, returns with Barstow singing Anna Maurrant. Graham Vick's productions of *The Rape of Lucretia*, *Figaro's Wedding* and *Eugene Onegin* are revived, the last-named conducted by yet another newcomer, a friend and colleague from Edwards's St Petersburg days, Alexander Polianichko.

The Richard Jones *Fledermaus* was one of the old regime's more controversial offerings, but Jones is already discussing the bits he wants to change (starting, I trust, with the overture). But at least we are spared a threatened revival of Ken Russell's *Princess Ida*: Philip Prowse's *Pearl Fishers*, another box-office draw, gets a welcome airing instead (phew!). The Pountney *Falstaff* is back after Christmas, conducted by Andrew Litton (house debut), and Philip Langridge returns to sing the title role in Albery's unconventional and harrowing *Peter Grimes*.

Edwards is certainly doing her share of conducting, but four interesting conductors making their house debuts — Kreizberg, Litton, Rahbari and Polianichko — is something the new management is quietly pleased with, as it is with four new directors and three new designers. That is quite a transfusion of new blood.

And there are new singers to look out for. Roberta Alexander is making her absurdly overdue London stage debut as Mimì, in partnership with the young Yorkshire tenor John Hudson as Rodolfo, engaged after a tip-off from Dennis O'Neill.

However promising the new season, there is no escaping the shadow of the deficit — though the repertory contains a number of bankable box-office attractions, which should help — or the additional burden of refurbishing the theatre itself. A team of architects is already nosing round the Coliseum devising ways of making it a nicer place to work in and to visit. Not too many months hence, what Marks calls "a modest development" will be proposed. Then follows the task of finding the money to do it, to top up the £13.8 million already raised.

ARTS BRIEFING

So far so good in Sussex

GOOD news is not the natural stuff of newspapers, but there is no other way to dress up a progress report on Glyndebourne's new opera house. The building work is said to be on schedule. The stage, fly-tower and rehearsal rooms are there; the auditorium, a forest of scaffolding, is less recognisable as such, but sample seats are elegant and comfortable. With glowing red brick topped by a shyly gleaming lead roof, Michael Hopkins's design looks even more handsome than it did as a model. Most amazingly, from the lawns it looks no bigger than the old theatre.

And the money is there, says Sir George Christie, Glyndebourne's owner: all but ten per cent of it. Cunning Sir George raised £30 million before the recession started to bite, and will raise the remaining £3 million later in the year, when the nearness of performances in the glamorous new house will concentrate the minds of corporate wavers no end.

● **CRISIS looms at the Courtauld Institute of Art in London, where severe cuts are threatening the future of the Conway Library. A unique collection, containing around one million photographs of architecture, sculpture and medieval painting, the Conway has lost half of its £200,000 grant from London University. The remaining £100,000 may soon be further reduced or withdrawn, forcing this major scholarly resource to close.**

The Conway's staff are mounting a vigorous fundraising campaign. Pointing out that the only comparable collection, the Bildarchiv Foto Marburg, is financed by Volkswagen, they are appealing for sponsorship. But donations of any size are welcome, and on Thursday the Library has a benefit night, with guided tours at 5.30pm: an hour later Mark Girouard gives a lecture: "Approaching Architecture". Tickets (£15 single, £25 double) from the Conway (071-872 0220).

Last chance . . .

THE memory of the late Dizzy Gillespie is invoked this week with the visit of the renowned American drummer Paul Motian, a restlessly inventive player best known for his long associations with the pianists Bill Evans and Keith Jarrett. Motian's latest quintet, The Electric Bebop Band, ends its residency at Ronnie Scott's Club, London W1 (071-439 0747) on Saturday.



Over their heads: Vitaly Komar (left) and Alexander Melamid give a performance in Red Square, Moscow

Scavengers amid fallen idols

As Russia votes for a new political order, **Guy Chazan** meets two artists who define Moscow's avant-garde

It could only happen in Yeltsin's Russia. A star performance in Red Square by the Laurel and Hardy of Russian art is drowned out by a Muscovite bag lady chanting rude rhymes about Boris Yeltsin. It is Hilda Ogden meets the *Late Show* in downtown Moscow. And Hilda wins hands down.

The event is a happening staged by two of the most famous living Russian avant-garde artists, Vitaly Komar and Alexander Melamid, to mark the birthday of their "hero", Vladimir Ilyich Lenin. Komar stands holding a skull and hourglass while Melamid intones verses from Ecclesiastes under the mock-up of a neon display tableau which the artists envisage placing on Lenin's mausoleum, turning the communist holy-of-holies into a free-floating, functional electronic noticeboard.

But it is the eve of a referendum that may decide President Yeltsin's fate, and not even Moscow's winsome bohemians are safe from the campaign fever sweeping the city's streets. As Melamid recites verses scorning the vanity of grand ideals and the futility of all Utopias, a Nora Batty lookalike in woollen tights chips in with some homespun wisdom of her own.

"So this is what they call reform, it's surgery without chloroform," rants Valya Yeroshenko, a 55-year-old retired construction worker. "Liberalisation, death for the Russian nation," the lumpen bard proclaims.

The audience of critics and artists giggles condescendingly and rushes to offer obeisance to their idols. For them, the first public performance by Komar and Melamid since they left Russia for New York in 1977 is an epoch-making event, besides which Yeroshenko's caterwaul is mere background noise.

"Komar and Melamid are the Marx and Engels of the Moscow arts scene," says critic Yekaterina Dyogot. "They are legendary figures." But Yeroshenko is not impressed. "This is disgusting," she scowls, belting up her trench coat huffily. "How can they put up adverts on such a holy place? It's blasphemy."

The mausoleum, a constructivist red-granite altar nestled incongruously under the walls of the Kremlin, still exerts a mystical power over the Russian soul, more than a year after the state created by him collapsed. But the days when serpentine queues to view the Bolshevik saint in his final resting place looped round Red Square are no more. There have even been calls to remove his embalmed body from its glass sarcophagus and fulfil his dying wish to be buried in St Petersburg's Volkov cemetery by his mother's side.

Radicals want to remove the mausoleum altogether, the same fate as the statue of Felix Dzerzhinsky, founder of the Soviet security service, which was pulled down by exuberant crowds in the aftermath of the failed coup of August 1991. Artists oppose the idea. "In Russia, whenever monuments lose their ideological meaning, they start being destroyed," says dealer Marat Guelman, owner of the Centre for Contemporary Art, which is exhibiting the electronic tableau. "Look at how the Bolsheviks destroyed churches after the revolution. On the contrary, we want to preserve the mausoleum as a solemn place.

> 'They see art's purpose as engaging as many people as possible'

"We were raised in a world where Lenin and Stalin occupied all of life," says Melamid. "They were our first loves. If we lose this [mausoleum]," he adds, "we will lose our life."

Komar, 49, and Melamid, 47, started collaborating in 1960s Moscow, subverting the devices of communist propaganda to create their own crushingly ironic reflection of Soviet reality. But in a strange reversal, the two have recently begun a project to find uses for the redundant communist monuments strewn like frozen mammoths across Russia's vast expanse.

More than a hundred Russian and American artists have joined in the project, which will culminate this summer in an exhibition in New York and Moscow. The electronic line-board is the curtain-raiser.

Another proposal envisages turning the Volgograd motherland statue — a massive 72-metre-high monument to the battle of Stalingrad, showing a woman with uplifted sword summoning her sons to defend the homeland — into a television tower. Another would transform a 90-metre-tall Moscow monument to space exploration into a leisure-pool-style water slide.

Melamid is excited about working in Russia again. For him, Sunday's referendum on Yeltsin's reforms showed a nation defining itself and a ruler reaching out to touch his people — an exciting paradigm for artists who see art's purpose as "engaging as many people as possible".

"There is no people as such here yet. The referendum is the first attempt to touch them. Who lives out in the sticks? Monkeys? We don't know, nobody's ever tried to find out," Melamid says. "Yeltsin wants to legitimise himself as a voice of the people," Melamid continues, "and we want to legitimise ourselves as American artists."

With this in mind, the two émigrés have hired a consumer research firm to conduct an opinion poll on what kind of art Americans want, so that they can produce it. They say the need arose when the Soviet Union fell. "Culturally we are Soviet — that is something that doesn't exist," says Melamid. The survey will help them fill the void, just as Yeltsin's referendum will help determine what kind of country post-Soviet Russia will be.

The happening in Red Square is part of that process too. It showed the two lost boys of Russian art gambolling on the rubbish heap of history, salvaging symbols like magpies from a graveyard of fallen idols and casting a mischievously subversive eye over their country's cataclysms.

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On May 1 each year the musicians of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, the Berliner Philharmoniker, perform their annual Europa Concert. The members of the orchestra themselves choose the country and the city which will host the concert. This year, the unique event — which will be televised live to 15 countries — will be held in London at the Royal Albert Hall, by arrangement with Harold Holt Limited and the sponsors of the concert, Daimler-Benz.

The conductor at this Saturday's concert will be Bernard Haitink, and the soloist will be the talented young German violinist Frank Peter Zimmermann. The programme will comprise Tchaikovsky's Fantasy Overture, *Romeo and Juliet*, Mozart's Violin Concerto No 3 K216 in G major, and Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*.

The concert begins at the unusual time of 10.30am. The arena will be unseated in "Proms-style" and has been made available to music students and other young people.

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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

LONDON

ARIODANTE: Expect solid authenticity on the musical side in English National Opera's new staging of Handel, conducted by Baroque specialist Nicholas McGegan. The non-authentic links on the stage will be provided by *enfant terrible* David Alden. A top-flight cast includes Ann Murray, Amanda Roocroft and Lesley Garrett. **Coliseum**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 3161). 7pm.

PAINTINGS FROM THE BOWES MUSEUM: The Bowes Museum at Barnard Castle *is being refurbished*, so 29 of its most famous paintings are on show at the National. The collection was amassed between 1860 and 1890 and includes one of El Greco's finest works, *The Tears Of St Peter*, two Goyas and Boucher's superb *Landscape With a Windmill*. **National Gallery**, Trafalgar Square, WC2 (071-839 3321). Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm, Sun, 2-6pm, until June 20

SPRINGBOARDS: The celebration of *new work at the National Theatre* continues until May 15. Take your pick from Judith Johnson's *Somewhere*, first seen at the Liverpool Playhouse; Robert Temple's translation of *Gilgamesh*; *Baby Doll, a chamber* opera by Andrew Poppy, based on the original Tennessee Williams screen play; David Farr's tales of the south coast in *Hove*; or Meredith Oakes's tense *The Neighbour*. **National (Cottesloe)**, South Bank, SE1 (details 071-928 2252).

MIKE WESTBROOK: The pianist and composer brings his 20-piece orchestra to London to perform selections from some of his grander compositions including *Big Band Rossini* and *On Duke's Birthday*. **100 Club**, 100 Oxford Street, W1 (071-636 0933), 7.45pm.

SHIMMER/DON'T YOU EVER CALL ME ANYTHING BUT MOTHER: A double-bill of one-person plays by *American dramatist* John O'Keefe: a 12-year-old boy on the brink of escaping from a detention farm, and an alcoholic pining for her son. Performed by William Marsh and Anny Tobin. **Mermaid Studio**, Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, EC4 (071-410 0000). Opens tonight, 7pm; then Mon-Sat, 8pm.

ALTERNATIVE VIENNA: H.K. Gruber conducts the London Sinfonietta in the *revised version of his Violin Concerto* (with Ernst Kovacic) and a new work by Lukas Ligeti. Works by Schwertsik make up the programme. **Queen Elizabeth Hall**, South Bank, *SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.45pm.*

REGIONAL

GLASGOW: The last productions of the spring season: *Old Rose* by Heinrich Henkel explores the generation gap between an elderly woman and the young man painting her flat (Stalls Studio, opens tonight). *The Marowitz Hamlet*, Charles M's 90-minute cut-and-collage version (Circle Studio, free *preview tonight, opens tomorrow*); *Sunset Song*, Lewis Grassic Gibbon's passionate study of a rural community on the change, performed by TAG Theatre (Main Theatre, free preview *tomorrow, opens Fri*). **Citizens**, Gorbals (041-429 0022). All performances Tues-Sun, 7.30pm, until May 23.

LEEDS: *La Bohème*, Puccini's tear-jerker, returns to **Opera North's** repertoire for the first time in five years, *in a new production* by Phyllida Lloyd and Anthony Ward, the team responsible for the company's delightful staging of Chabrier's *L'Etoile* a year ago. The cast includes Jane Leslie MacKenzie as Mimi, Juliet Booth as Musetta; Roy Laughlin conducts. **Grand Theatre**, New Briggate (0532 459351), 7.15pm.

MANCHESTER: The **Hallé Choir** performs Rossini's only major religious work, *Petite Messe Solennelle*, under chorus master John Aldis. **Royal Northern College of Music**, 124 Oxford Road (061-273 4504), 8pm.

WARWICK: Peter Donohoe's Beethoven piano sonata series begins *with performances of the "Tempest"* and the "Waldstein"; more performances on May 11, 19, 22. **Warwick Arts Centre**, University of Warwick, Coventry (0203 524524), 8pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

- ■ **House full, returns only**
- ◩ **Some seats available**
- □ **Seats at all prices**

◩ **CITY OF ANGELS:** Top quality Larry Gelbart/Cy Coleman musical, *packed with wit, set in L.A. and the* world of the private eye movie. **Prince of Wales**, Coventry Street, W1 (071-839 5972). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 180mins.

■ **CRAZY FOR YOU:** Thrillingly staged new version of the Gershwin musical *Girl Crazy*. Exceptional entertainment value. **Prince Edward**, Old Compton Street, W1 (071-734 8951). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

□ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC:** Robert Lindsay looks right as the nasally challenged hero but the production is too bustling to give enough room to the full poignancy of his fate. **Theatre Royal**, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. 180mins

□ **THE DEEP BLUE SEA:** Penelope Wilton the victim of unsatisfactory men in Rattigan's well-staged but so old-fashioned drama. **Apollo**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm, *mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 140mins*

□ **FOR SERVICES RENDERED:** Somerset Maugham in angry mood, lashing the hypocrisy surrounding the first world war. Sylvia Syms in well-*observed revival, transferred from the* Salisbury Playhouse. **Old Vic**, Waterloo Road, SE1 (071-928 7616). *Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed,* 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

□ ***THE GIFT OF THE GORGON:*** Blazing performance by Judi Dench in combat with Michael Pennington in Peter Shaffer's RSC success tackling the themes of justice and terrible revenge. **Wyndham's**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 3pm. 165mins.

■ **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST:** Maggie Smith commands the brittle world of lost handbags in this elegant revival. With Alex Jennings, Richard E. Grant, Margaret Tyzack. **Aldwych**, *The Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404)*. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 160mins.

□ **THE INVISIBLE MAN:** Not so cosy a venue as its birthplace in Stratford East but the show is as jolly as ever. Paul Kiev's magic tricks are amazing.

Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

◩ ***A JOVIAL CREW:*** *Max Stafford-*Clark's marvellous discovery of a play about the lure of the vagabond life, *written on the eve of the Civil War*. **The Pit**, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm, mats tomorrow, Sat, 2pm. 150mins.

■ ***KINDERTRANSPORT:*** Accomplished and moving first play by Diane Samuels about a child obliged to leave her parents in Nazi Germany. **Cockpit**, Gateforth Street, NW8 (071-402 5081). Mon-Sat, 8pm. 120mins

□ **THE LAST YANKEE:** Subtle and touching Arthur Miller premiere. Margot *Leicester, Peter Davison lead a quartet of middle-aged* Americans troubled by material success. **Duke of York's**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Previewing eves, 7.45pm; opens May 4, 7.45pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

□ **LION IN THE STREETS:** Canada, specifically Toronto, as a jungle where beasts destroy the weak: powerful stuff. **Hampstead**, Avenue Road, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. *130mins*

◩ **MACBETH:** An idiosyncratic performance by Alan Howard in Richard Eyre's murky production. **National (Olivier)**, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight, 7.15pm. 140mins

□ **MISERY:** Julie T. Wallace and Nigel Le Vaillant in nonsensical but chilling production of Stephen King's thriller. **Criterion**, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins

□ ***NO MAN'S LAND:*** *Paul Eddington* and the author in tense, sharply comic Pinter. Riveting stuff. **Comedy**, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 130mins. Closes May 8.

□ **ON THE PISTE:** John Godber's slight but amusing look at partner trouble in a downmarket ski resort. **Garrick**, *Charing Cross Road, WC2* (071-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 135mins.

□ **RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL:** Welcome revival of St John Hankin's satirical 1905 comedy where a ne'er-do-well justifies sponging on his family. **Orange Tree**, 1 Clarence Street, *Richmond (081-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm* 120mins.

□ **ROBIN — PRINCE OF SHERWOOD:** Over-loud, ridiculous. **Piccadilly**, *Denman Street, W1 (071-867 7118)*. Tues-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, Sun, 3pm. 140mins.

□ **THE TREATMENT:** Martin Crimp's eccentric look at New York and the treachery of movie makers: effective only in patches. **Royal Court**, Sloane Square, SW1 *(071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat,* 4pm. 135mins.

LONG RUNNERS: ◩ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) ... □ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... ◩ ***Cats**: New London (071-405 0072)* ... □ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) ... □ ***Five Guys Named Moe***: Lyric (071-494 5045) ... □ **An Ideal Husband**: Globe (071-494 5065) ... ◩ **It Runs in the Family**: Playhouse (071-839 4401) ... ◩ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**: Palladium (071-494 5037) ... ◩ **Kiss Of The Spider Woman**: Shaftesbury (071-379 5399) ... □ ***Lost in Yonkers**: Strand* (071-930 8800) ... ◩ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ... ◩ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) ... □ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ... ◩ **Starlight Express**: *Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665)* ... □ **Travels With My Aunt**: Whitehall (071-867 1119) ... □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information on member theatres supplied by Society of West End Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

UN COEUR EN HIVER (12): Love, sly games and damaged friendships between two instrument makers and a young violinist. Wonderfully observant, delicate drama from Claude Sautet. With Daniel Auteuil, Emmanuelle Béart, André Dussollier. **Camden Plaza** (071-485 2443) **Gate** (071-727 4043) **Lumière** (071-836 0691) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666).

◆ **MR SATURDAY NIGHT** (15): Some tart jokes, but a mostly exhausting, cornball vehicle for Billy Crystal (as an old-time comic in his twilight years). With David Paymer; Crystal also directs. **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Haymarket** (0426 915353) **Kensington** (0426 914666) **Screen on the Hill** (071-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

◆ **SOMMERSBY** (12): Richard Gere returns to Jodie Foster after the Civil War, but is he really her husband? Plush hokum, based on *The Return of Martin Guerre*. Director, Jon Amiel. **Camden Parkway** (071-267 7034) **Empire** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

Barbican (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

◆ **BODY OF EVIDENCE** (18): Predatory murder suspect Madonna *hooks defence lawyer Willem Dafoe*. Silly, sleazy attempt to rival *Basic Instinct*. Director, Uli Edel. **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

◆ **FOREVER YOUNG** (PG): Test pilot frozen for 50 years awakes and searches for true love. Endearing old-fashioned fantasy; with Mel Gibson, Jamie Lee Curtis. Director, Steve Miner. **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

INDOCHINE (12): Love in a hot climate. A trite plot, but Catherine Deneuve and gorgeous images carry the day. Director, Régis Wargnier.

Curzon West End (071-439 4805) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666).

◆ **LEAP OF FAITH** (PG): Steve Martin's evangelical conman finds his match in drought-stricken Texas. Hard-going drama; director, *Richard Pearce*. **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Plaza** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

◆ **ONE FALSE MOVE** (18): Excellent rural film noir from director Carl Franklin. Bill Paxton as the Arkansas sheriff *faced with two fleeing drug dealers and* a tantalising moll. **Chelsea** (071-351 3742/3743) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Metro** (071-437 0757) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520).

ORLANDO (PG): Virginia Woolf's exuberant novel about a free spirit (Tilda Swinton) who lives for 400 years, changing sex en route; filmed with great aplomb by British director Sally Potter. **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Plaza** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen on Baker Street** (071-935 2772).

THE QUINCE TREE SUN (U): Spanish artist Antonio López strives to capture a quince tree on canvas. Victor Erice's magical meditation on art and nature. **Renoir** (071-837 8402).

◆ **USED PEOPLE** (12): Will Jewish widower Shirley MacLaine accept Marcello Mastroianni's advances? *Queasy comedy romance*, made watchable by its cast. Director, Beeban Kidron. **Barbican** (071-638 8891) **Camden Parkway** (071-267 7034).

CURRENT

◆ **ACCIDENTAL HERO** (15): Promising satire on hero worship, marred by a grating Dustin Hoffman performance and a director (Stephen Frears) not in total control. Starring Andy Garcia, Geena Davis

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THEATRE: Kafka without the terror is not quite Kafka, however well performed it may be

Googly played with straight bat

The Trial
Young Vic


MARILYN KINGWILL

Joseph K (James Wilby, left), confronts David Brett, Estelle Kohler and Peter Eyre (right)

THE last time we saw *The Trial* on a London stage, at the National in 1991, it had been hijacked by the irrepressible Steven Berkoff. Joseph K's sleepy, inept attorney was transformed into a Rabelaisian Rumpole, a man-mattress who trundled about growling, farting and casually dropping excrement. Berkoff himself played the court painter Titorelli as an Italian ice-cream salesman with Salvador Dali moustachios. The supporting cast, leering and pouting, wandered around carrying steel frames meant to represent windows, corridors, mirrors or cubby-holes in Joseph's bank. It was as if a band of demented double-glazing salesmen had taken over the stage, and in its imaginative *chutzpah* it was, of course, very Berkoffian.

It was not, however, particularly Kafkaesque. The original novel is *deliberately* downbeat, even flat. The impression it leaves is of something weird and *disconcerting happening* beneath the grey surfaces of those *impersonal offices*, shabby streets and drab bed-sits smelling vaguely of overcooked cabbage. And that is very much the feeling that the Czech *director* Lida Engelova and her British cast doggedly try to create at the Young Vic. *In every* respect but one, her portrait of Kafka's killer-bureaucracy *seems more* authentic than Berkoff's.

Unfortunately, the missing ingredi*ent is important*. Where is the menace, the tension, the subterranean terror of Joseph K's predicament? True, Kafka's protagonist and alter ego is not all that appalled to find himself arrested without cause or explanation. But he *does end up the sacrificial* victim of a judicial system in which defence lawyers do not read court papers nor judges see defendants. "Like a dog," he *murmurs* as, still not knowing his offence, he feels a butcher's knife twist round his heart.

Kafka's Joseph means that he is being crudely put down, but at the Young Vic he might almost be asking his executioner if he wants to buy a pedigree poodle: "like a dog?". James Wilby, who takes the part, is right to maintain his cool at the beginning, and not altogether wrong to refuse to play the twitching neurotic afterwards. But should Joseph be quite such a good, straight chap? Might there not be a few cracks in the willowy English façade as his waking nightmare escalates? Wilby admittedly takes on a sweaty, flummoxed look, but one has only to compare him with Antony Sher, whose anguished shrimp was the big success of Berkoff's production, to see his emotional insufficiency.

More energy comes from Malcolm Rennie, playing Joseph's uncle; more authority from Peter Eyre, his bland, idle lawyer; more sex from Estelle Kohler, the most demonstrative of the fast women who crash the action; and more character from Jaroslav Malina's set. Grey figures scuttle past the hatstand, desk and piano on the stage itself. They gather in their black cloaks *on the smoky* walkway above, whispering and quietly cackling. The sense of watchers *and* watched, of spies materialising and dematerialising in the *urban murk*, is true enough to Kafka, not to mention Prague as it was *until just* the other day.

It seems presumptuous not to defer to *Engelova's understanding of both* her author and her city. But atmosphere is finally not enough. Narrative power and dramatic urgency are wanted too; and too *seldom felt*.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

CONCERTS: A contemporary composer's brilliance, and a night out for an opera band

Seventies' highlight on Holloway's road

BBCSO/Knussen
Festival Hall

THOUGH he is currently rather out of fashion, back in the Seventies Robin Holloway established himself in the progressive *music-loving public's* imagination with pieces such as *Domination of Black* and *Scenes from Schumann*. I remember the shock on hearing his brazen use of common chords in those works. It was one of the *first indications of a softening of the* hard avant-gardism that had predominated in the Sixties, a sign that Romanticism could be radically redefined.

The Second Concerto for Orchestra, Op 40, composed in 1978, continues in that all-embracing, free-thinking, fantastic vein. After hearing Oliver Knussen conduct the BBC Symphony Orchestra in it on Monday, I am convinced that it is one of the most important achievements of its time. Inspired by North Africa, it teems with invention. The orchestral writing is *frighteningly demanding*.

A fast introduction, made up of wildly disparate *strands*, leads *to a* slower, middle section, drawing them together, slowing the movement down until it reaches a complex sequence of freely associated cadenzas. Familiar snippets drift into and out of our consciousness — I detected "Jerusalem" and "O sole mio". And then the introduction is repeated, its ideas basically reversed, their relationships with one another clarified, and elements of the middle section incorporated. This tumult of dream-like experiences, an encapsulation in a maelstrom of sound of an entire universe, grips the mind as few other pieces of its era can. Its *confidence* is staggering, its effect *overwhelming*. One hearing is inadequate; but it will soon be made available on an NMC recording by the same performers as those who here gave *it so impressively*.

Before it, we heard two rarities by Aaron Copland. *Inscape*, first performed in 1967, was Copland's last major piece, and one which, like *Connotations* a few years previously, uses aspects of serial technique. The most important consequence of this is an enrichment of harmony; Copland's orchestral colours, predilection for grand statement and spare counterpoint, clarity of rhythm and structure remain basically unchanged in this typically direct work.

The contrast between this and his first major orchestral piece, the ballet *Grogh*, written from 1922 onwards at Boulanger's suggestion and revised a decade later, is, to say the least, marked. Knussen unearthed the full *score of Grogh from the* Library of Congress only last year, though some *of its music* saw the light of day in other pieces. If sometimes the music's episodic nature *threatens to* weary *the* listener, Copland already shows a *knack for dramatic pacing. His orches*tration is brilliant, his language owing something to Stravinsky's Ballets Russes scores; and he tells the tale of the sorcerer Grogh's infatuations with the dead Adolescent, Opium Eater and Street-Walker with unerring vividness. Another fine performance, but only a small audience to witness it.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Off with the motley

ROH Orch/Haitink
Festival Hall

AN EXCURSION to the South Bank brought the Royal Opera House *Orchestra out of its usual semi*-concealment at Covent Garden for a concert under its music director, Bernard Haitink, who has always been keen to give the players wider exposure. Opera connections were avoided except in the overture, but there was some vocal music to be heard in Felicity Lott's ravishing singing of Ravel's *Shéhérazade*.

The soprano has a feeling for French verse that is given to few British singers, and the sensuous beauty of these three songs was artfully inflected in tracing the vocal line of melody against the subtle harmonic richness of the orchestra. The rhythmic under*standing between* the soloist and the conductor contributed to the delight of the performance.

"The enchanted flute", as the second *song is called, had its full measure of* instrumental magic from the orchestra's principal flute, named in the players' list as Sarah Brooke, whose delicacy of phrase earned her a separate call at the end. She was prominent again, among other wind instrument colleagues, in the exposed passages that came her way in three of *the four movements* of the Fifth Symphony by *Shostakovich*, a work that is more *demanding than it is sometimes made* to sound.

Haitink has decided views on the work's intellectual as well as emotional witness to the composer's frame of mind at a politically-troubled time. He *sent it forth on its symphonic journey* with piercing intensity and a sense of *implacable* conflict. The fabric of overlapping melodic threads was carefully woven, the hushed expectancy of matters of serious import underlined by the measured tempo, and that led to a *sense of epic scale* in the later movements and a finale that was not so *much "optimistic by intention"*, as Shostakovich wrote, as resoundingly *defiant*.

Released from operatic obligations, the orchestral playing had a cohesion and bite that was impressive to hear, not least in a wide dynamic range that included some notable quiet passages, while the tensile strength and bold instrumental colour of the Berlioz overture to *Benvenuto Cellini* that began the programme was no less to be admired.

NOEL GOODWIN

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

ASIAN ART AT SPINK. For one week. 26-30 April 9.30-5.30. 5 King Street, St James's, SW1.

LEFEVRE GALLERY 30 Bruton St, W1. 071-493 2107. An exhibition of Paintings by GEORGIA O'KEEFFE (1887 - 1986). 8 April-7 May. Mon-Fri 10-5pm.

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CINEMAS

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CURZON WEST END Shaftes Ave W1 071 439 4805 Catherine Deneuve in INDOCHINE (12) Progs at 1.20, 4.30 & 7.45 Academy Award Winner Best Foreign Language Film

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THEATRES

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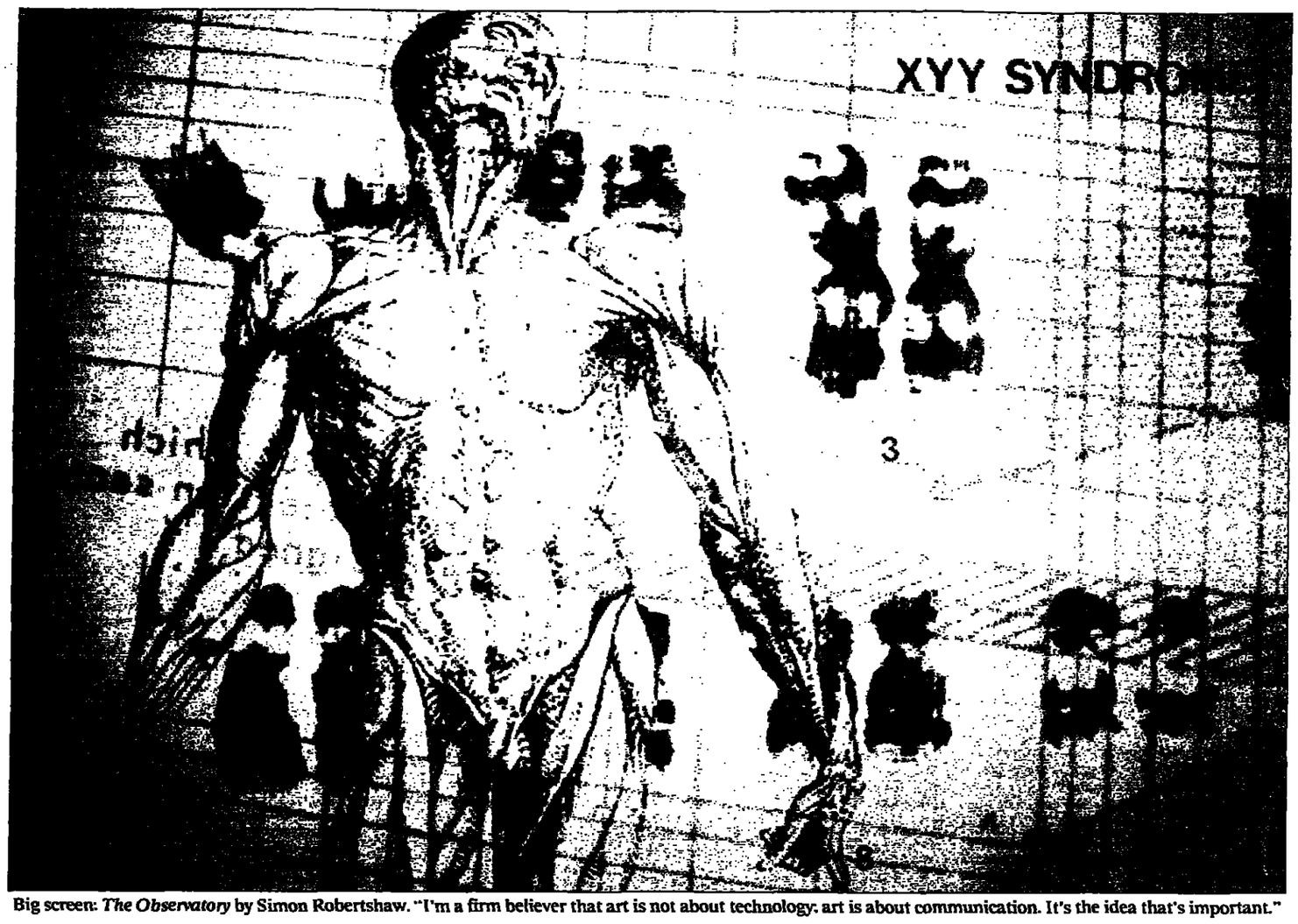
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Previewing Video Positive 93 in Liverpool, **Joseph Williams** is intrigued but unconvinced by the pretentious claims of video art

A dotty sort of artistry



Big screen: *The Observatory* by Simon Robertshaw. "I'm a firm believer that art is not about technology; art is about communication. It's the idea that's important."

Put down the palette and brush, pack up the easel and switch on the video monitor. The artform of the 21st century, according to its practitioners, will be electronic: manipulating images and sounds through cameras and monitors to create bizarre and disorientating effects. Imagine a surreal pop video directed by Peter Greenaway and played on a large screen — complete with superimposed images and scenes that look "meaningful", music changed into eerie sounds, and voices that seem to talk flapdoodle — and you have a rough idea of video art.

But are we being taken for an electronic ride? Is video art a flickering gimmick foisted on us by a generation of artists who have abandoned basic drawing skills? Apparently not. This week, Liverpool is launching Video Positive 93, a festival of "creative video and electronic media art". More than 200 artists will be exhibiting at eight venues. Spread over the city's top galleries — the Tate, Bluecoat, Open Eye and Walker — the festival combines scores of screenings and collaborative works with the 15 major installations that are the centrepiece of the jamboree. Many works are interactive: infra-red sensors detect the presence of a visitor and trigger off the system.

The images in video art unfold rapidly. In *History With Disaster With Marvels* by Andrew Stones, the words "angel" and "soul" are flashed across the screen, with quotations from Francis Bacon, the 17th-century philosopher, illuminated against a richly-textured backdrop. We hear the monotone voice of a bored-sounding woman, but what she says is meaningless. Shots of clocks and chairs rapidly appear and disappear.

The word "eventually" appears on screen. The sky burns up, and scenes of annihilation are interlarded with quotations from Robert Oppenheimer, the nuclear physicist. It all seems to point to the notion of eschatological despair. But so many unrelated ideas are tossed in that the whole concept looks pretentious.

Eddie Berg, director of the festival, believes that adverse reaction was just as fierce at the advent of photography in the 19th century: "We need to broaden our perception of what art is. Artists choose to use video as the medium in which to express their ideas, and it's only fair we should judge them by those ideas and not because they use a certain technology.

"For too long there's been a prejudice against artists using technology, because the view is that they're artisans not artists. In fact the artistry is complex, not just technically but in terms of the whole process of realising ideas through images."

Video art is not as new as it sounds. Nam June Paik, the Korean-born performance artist, pioneered it in the 1960s, when he compared the millions of phosphor dots on colour television screens with the pointillist paintings of Seurat — the mixing of the dots takes place in the eye of the beholder. In 1982, Paik placed hundreds of television sets, upended, in rows along the foyer of the Pompidou Centre in Paris. He believed that they could become sculptures themselves, as in *TV Garden*, where he scattered the sets like plants among lush tropical vegetation.

But Paik is known to laugh at the multi-layered meanings his critics find in his works. He is a performing showman as much as an artist, with an artistic sideline in smashing violins and playing the piano with an axe.

The problem with today's video works is that we are expected to take them seriously, even when the result fails to merit that level of attention. *Nantes-Triptych* by Bill Viola, one of America's most established video artists, was exhibited in Düsseldorf last year. It comprises three large screens: one shows a film of a woman giving birth, another a swimmer underwater, and the last is of a patient dying. Call it a triptych on the cycle of life and death and it sounds grand and solemn, but the work is mind-numbingly repetitive and dull.

In *Methuselah* by Cathy Vogan, who will be exhibiting at Video Positive 93, an anguished face looms out of the ocean. A dead tree soars up to the clouds. A naked old man gently strokes a block of gnarled wood, comparing his wrinkled skin with the dead bark. But where lies the artistry? The comparison of tree with man is delivered in too clichéd and facile a manner to intrigue us, and the work comes over as an odd monologue: performance art looking like bad theatre.

Video art is better when it offers spectacular, entertaining or humorous images. *Men of Vision*, by the Australian artist Peter Callas, projects onto suspended screens the "visions" of Lenin and Marat. The animated images are frantic and comic: little heads popping out of eyes, and outstretched hands moving forward and back. The effect is Monty Pythonesque.

But the extravagant messages about society and identity these artists seek to deliver in neatly-packaged catalogue statements do not tally with the disjointed and often silly images of their work. Walking around the installations of Liverpool's last video festival in 1991, I felt that the cacophony of voice tracks and the incongruous imagery suggested an art form too alien and cold to be moving. It lacked the human touch of brush on canvas or chisel on stone. It was an experience no more artistic than pressing the buttons of an interactive video at the Science Museum. Were we not being tele-diddled?

Video artists argue that their medium is time-based: closer to music or film than to painting and sculpture, which traditionally offer static, "finished" objects. And unlike ordinary television, which we can watch passively and unthinkingly, video art invites us to take part in the installations — for instance, by walking on the images projected on a gallery floor. Video Positive 91 drew 35,000 visitors. But perhaps many of them were simply attracted by fast-moving images.

"It's an art form in its own right, mainly because the issues, or the debate, or the themes that are present in the work are similar to those of other art forms," says Simon Robertshaw, who lectures on electronic art and is exhibiting at the festival. With a fine art background, he regards himself as an artist who uses video as his medium, not as a "video artist": "I'm a firm believer that art is not about technology; art is about communication. You can communicate through painting and through video — it's the idea that's important."

The suspicion remains, however, that video art will only encourage artists who cannot draw, who need only edit some shots of landscapes, speed up the movement of clouds, and hide it all behind a daft conceptual message that nobody can understand or refute. Any image can be made to appear symbolic, and you can dream up a hundred recondite meanings for one work and make them all apply. But devoid of any real narrative structure, the works end up like short "arty" films, their sound and fury signifying nothing.

● Video Positive 93 *opens on Saturday and runs throughout May at various venues in Liverpool. For details, telephone 051-709 2663.*

RADIO REVIEW

Hits and misses in vocal range

AS **Romeo and Juliet** begins, the Capulet youths are laughing as they talk about raping the Montagu girls — "cutting off the heads of the maids" as they put it in their macho way. Listening to Kenneth Branagh's Renaissance Theatre production of the play on Sunday night (Radio 3), you felt that Shakespeare would have had no difficulty understanding the Bosnian war.

That is the great strength of Branagh's new production: it reminds you again and again of Shakespeare's amazing gift for evoking a whole milieu and a wealth of individual personality in a handful of words. From Juliet's nurse (Judi Dench in brilliant form) to Sheila Hancock's Lady Capulet, the whole bustling city of Verona comes to life.

John Gielgud plays Friar Laurence like a well-meaning old prep-school master, but is quite irresistible: Derek Jacobi, as Mercutio, sometimes seems as puzzled by his own wit as modern audiences are, but he dies very movingly.

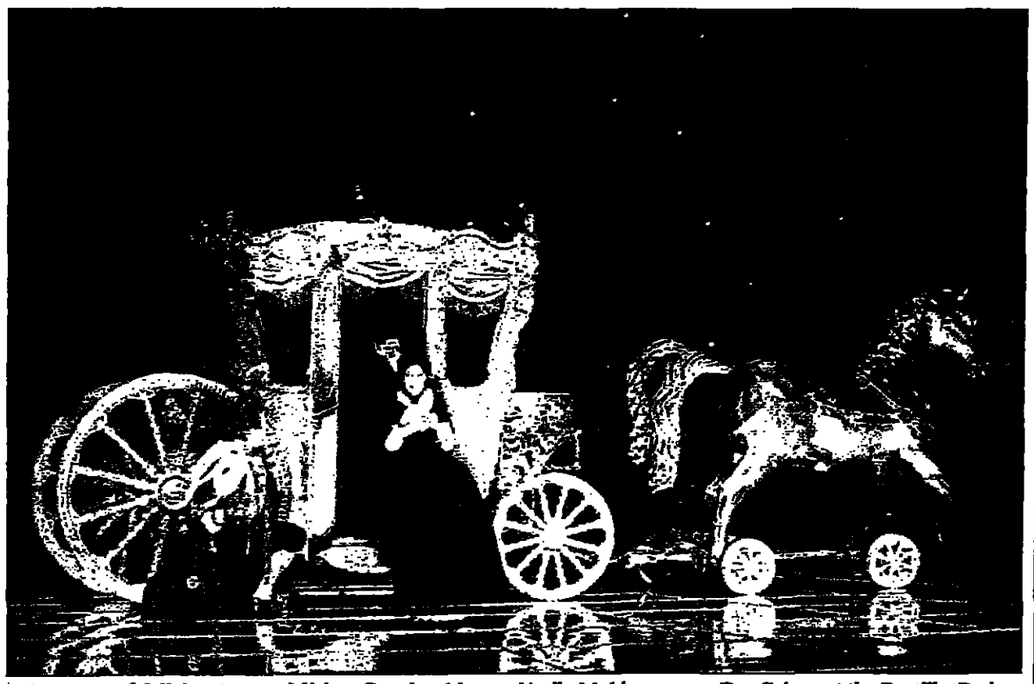
Unfortunately, the love story is the weakest part of the production. Shakespeare's tragic irony comes over powerfully, but the lovers themselves are disappointing. Branagh, as Romeo, plays with his voice, dropping suddenly from soprano to bass; he fills the lines with meaningless pauses, or else stresses too many words in a line for it to have any clear meaning. It does not sound like a real, emotion-driven Romeo: it just sounds like Branagh putting on a performance.

Samantha Bond as Juliet has the opposite problem. She plays the part in a voice that at first makes you think of a modern girl in a fruity sit-com, then turns thin and shrewish.

Yet, at the supreme moments of the play, both Branagh and Bond are transformed. In the morning scene, when they hear the warning lark singing, their voices have a quiet, simple beauty that is really moving; and they die with the same voices.

DERWENT MAY

● *An audio-cassette of this production is published by Random Century at £15.99.*


Transport of delight: soprano Miriam Gauci as Manon, Vasile Moldoveanu as Des Grieux at the Bastille, Paris

City glitter, provincial virtue

John Higgins sees *Manon* in Paris and *Il Trovatore* in Toulouse

SHARED productions are in favour in France. *Manon Lescaut*, currently at the Bastille in Paris, comes from the Flanders Opera in Antwerp. Travel south to Toulouse and there *Il Trovatore* is a co-production between that city and the opera houses of Lyon and Bordeaux. There could be a danger of conformity, the need to serve too many different masters and audiences. But so far it seems to have been averted. The two stagings could hardly be more different: the metropolitan *Manon* is sophisticated and quirky, the provincial *Trovatore* relies on old-fashioned virtues.

Puccini's *Manon* carries strong British connections. Its Canadian producer, Robert Carsen, learnt much of his opera at Glyndebourne during the early 1980s. His designer, Anthony Ward, was responsible for such eye-catching sets as those for Opera North's *L'Etoile* and Anouilh's *The Rehearsal*, which began at the Almeida before moving to the West End. Carsen and Ward fill the Bastille's ample stage with fluffy white clouds, but ranks of critical courtiers make it clear that it is unlikely to be blue skies from now on for Manon and Des Grieux after their first meeting in Amiens.

The lovers are encased in a hall of gilded mirrors until the final act. They can see themselves set on a course of self-destruction, while on a more practical level the size of the Bastille's stage is cut by screens, which almost certainly help to project the voices into the vast auditorium.

In the title role there is a striking young Maltese soprano, Miriam Gauci, whose voice has all the warmth and suppleness needed for the part. Poor Manon has precious little chance in Puccini to play the *grande dame* — Massenet indulged her more — but she has opportunity in plenty for impetuousness, wilfulness and finally a hefty dose of self-pity. Gauci is mistress of all of these musical moods and an artist to be watched.

Her Des Grieux, Vasile Moldoveanu, found the youthful frivolity of the first act hard going. Among students he comes in the mature category. But once stronger emotions are required he showed himself a natural Puccini tenor with plenty of lustre still left in the voice. Jeffrey Black allowed Lescaut vestiges of decency as he switches from one side to another, while Jules Bastin made it clear that Geronte's fussiness covered a heart of stone.

At Toulouse the opera leaves its elegant home at the Capitole once a season for the larger spaces of the Halle aux Grains (Corn Exchange). It is a domed building, a plusher version of London's Roundhouse, where the audience perches above and around the stage. For *Trovatore* this was filled with caves (gypsies, for the use of) and a wooden structure resembling the end of a pier, where the Spanish gentry could cross swords and hold executions. Hubert Monloup was clearly intent on providing the cast with an easy space in which to sing, and the director, Nicolas Joel, was similarly disinclined to invest Verdi with any special subtlety.

Fortunately a quartet of exceptionally sturdy singers was on hand for the leading roles. Alain Fondary, a last minute replacement as Di Luna, showed why he is currently France's leading baritone. Capped with a flowing black wig, he exuded venom and suavity turn and turn about. "Il balen" was a model of legato singing. Kristian Johannsson's Manrico by contrast was a Nordic warrior, a young Siegfried ready to fight all comers. He showed similar fearlessness towards his top notes, getting most of them, and sounded quite ready to do another turn of *Trovatore* as he was led off to the scaffold.

A more delicate performance came from Adriana Morelli, who brought to Leonora some of the dark intensity Rosalind Plowright conveys in the role. She has much vocal command, dreaming softly of her troubadour in "Tacea la notte" and ready to let fly at full volume when her partners were doing likewise. Alexandria Miltcheva (Azucena) saved her best for the close, sending the audience home with "Ai nostri monti" ringing in their ears.

At the start, Michel Plasson seemed too refined a conductor for the vocal vigour of this *Trovatore*, but he relaxed eventually to let rip with his singers. It was their evening.

DANCE: New leads, old problems

No showcase yet

Don Quixote
Covent Garden

I WISH I could share the enthusiasm of those who see the Baryshnikov slimming down of *Don Quixote* as a wonderful showcase of dancing. In theory it ought to be a choreographic distillation, retaining only an evocative residue of the problematic story. But in practice the haemoglobin has been pumped out, leaving a weakly-paced ballet with one dance following the other unvaryingly.

Is that why Royal Ballet performances seem so anaemic? Given their looks, abilities and apparent compatibility, Leanne Benjamin and José Manuel Carreño — Kitri and Basilio — ought to have dazzled: but somehow their closing pas de deux fell just short of matching the real fireworks at the end. It lacked edge and, at times, secureness, even though Carreño has a gift for dramatically decelerating pirouettes and Benjamin, tiny but long-limbed, composes attractive shapes.

Earlier they had achieved more. Benjamin has vivid features, vivacity and a sensitive way of forming her dance phrases. Carreño unveiled those beautiful jumps with bracingly clear lines that helped make him a hit when he was with English National Ballet. If anything he looks too boyishly pure for Basilio, whose mind surely does have the odd roguish thought. But he does display a confident comic touch. This was Carreño's official Royal Ballet debut in a lead role. They have made a good catch.

NADINE MEISNER

TELEVISION REVIEW

You can still see the join

THERE is an old Chinese proverb that says, while there are thousands of natural topics in the world to choose from, there are some people who cannot meet a cripple without mentioning feet. Last night's *40 Minutes* about Ernie Wise (BBC 2) brought that proverb to mind with considerable force. I mean, what sort of thing would you try not to say in the vicinity of Ernie Wise? That Eric Morecambe was funnier? That little Ern was a mere stooge? That a man could be a star, yet lack talent? Would you suggest that if, nowadays, he were asked to appear in panto, it was only because of his "television name"?

Perhaps you would. But the odd thing about this *40 Minutes* was that Ernie raised all these matters himself; which made it all the more uncomfortable to watch. Interspersed with pointed clips from the shows ("Without me," said Eric, "You'd be no good, would you?"), little Ern at 67 alternately braved his fate (apparently offering himself for any kind of work) and gave hostages to fortune in the form of self-deprecatory jokes. He retained his dignity only by claiming to be a song-and-dance man, not a stooge at all. But on the other hand, what else could you call him, if he agreed to appear in this film?

One started to wonder what the participants had been told, particularly Ernie himself. Bill Cotton thought it was a tribute: "He was one of the best straight men who ever walked the boards." Meanwhile Eddie Braben, the *Morecambe and Wise Show* scriptwriter, said, "The person I concentrated on was Ernie; I gave him a character. In the end it was a double act without a straight man." Ernie himself was shown in various locations — treading the boards at the Blackpool panto, backstage doing his make-up, relaxing at his second home in Florida, and standing at the helm of a Thames leisure cruiser — but if any of these were supposed to make him look good, it was either a forlorn hope or a hypocritical one.

What a rotten thing to do to someone. "I would have liked success in America," he said brightly, in all sincerity. "I would have liked to have been a world star . . . I'm still on my way to Hollywood." Oh, stop it, for God's sake. Stop going on about *feet*. Ernie Wise does not deserve this: if he wants to pursue a solo career after 46 years with Eric Morecambe, then let him do it in peace. It doesn't make him John Osborne's Entertainer.

The poignancy of Ernie's widowhood can be taken too far, in any case. As any fan will gladly attest, it was the script quality that was paramount with *The Morecambe and Wise Show*. Life without Eddie Braben, or without Sid and Dick, is at least as drastic an idea as life without Eric.

Recently Eric Morecambe's son spoke on the radio about a play he had written about the Morecambe and Wise partnership. "Was there tension between them?" he was asked, but unfortunately he didn't understand, so we shall never know.


On his own: Ernie Wise

The assumption about double acts, that they are ersatz marriages (and of course Morecambe and Wise *did* sit together in the same bed) is a bit trite, really. From last night's programme it was clear that Ernie misses his old Dad much more than he misses Eric. It was the kindest feature of this *40 Minutes*, in the end, that at least it didn't show him crying.

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The postholder will work as a member of a team which includes a Consultant Respiratory Physician, junior doctors, nurses and technicians. The ideal candidate will possess good interpersonal skills, excellent wordprocessing skills (Wordperfect 5.1), D Base IV, knowledge of accounts, as well as being flexible and able to use initiative when working independently. She/he will also need to be familiar with medical terminology. Previous experience in a hospital setting is desirable.

For a job description and application form please contact the Personnel Department, Royal Brompton National Heart & Lung Hospital (Chelsea), Sydney Street, London SW3 6NP. Tel: 071 351 8686 (24 hour answerphone).

Closing date: Monday 10th May 1993.

Face the Press
£16,000 plus benefits

The PR department of a highly respected firm of City stockbrokers requires a confident and efficient secretary. As an integral member of their small team you will provide PA support to the dynamic department head and handle a demanding admin role. Speak to members of the press and public, assist in brochure production, monitor promotional items and provide the daily office backup. Educated at least to A levels, you will have steady experience in either finance or PR and skills of 90/60/wp. Age 24-32. **Please telephone Victoria Herrington on 071 377 9919 for further details.**

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£15,000 + Bkg Bens

GRADUATE WITH GERMAN

We need an intelligent graduate-calibre secretary who has conversational German and a bright, outgoing personality. In assisting this leading 'City' businessmem your role will be varied and interesting, certainly giving you the scope to use your initiative as well as your strong organisational and communication skills. This is a high-calibre, international bank who believe in developing their staff and so for someone with two or three years' experience, it would be an excellent career opportunity. Skills of 60wpm typing and English mother-tongue preferable. Call us now on 071 225 1888 to hear more.

VICTORIA WALL ASSOCIATES

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
£20,000 + BENEFITS

This international financial institution seeks a polished PA with proven secretarial experience at board level. You will assist their dynamic Financial Director who will expect a top level of commitment in this high profile role in which you'll liaise at executive level and be privy to highly confidential matters. Skill 80/60. Age mid 20's to mid 30's.

Please telephone 071 628 9529

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

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Editorial Assistant
£13,000 + Bonus + lv's + Discount

This established prestigious Publishers (WC1) need Editorial Assistants, once in a blue moon! This could be your job...work with Editors...manage manuscripts...handle your own correspondence, need we say more. If you're self motivated, accurate & organised with good work experience (accurate typing) we need to hear from you. Good prospects if you're in your 20's.

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Victoria
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Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Helping Hands

A well known International Aid Agency providing reproductive healthcare in the UK and developing countries currently has two fantastic opportunities based in it W1 Head Office. We are looking for experienced secretaries with initiative, a mature and diplomatic approach and a young attitude, to handle a variety of secretarial and administrative duties. You must be able to keep your sense of humour under pressure with skills of 55/audio/WP, aged 23-40. c.£14,500. If you are looking for total involvement in a rewarding and challenging environment, **please call Jessica on 071 377 9919 or Caroline on 071 437 6032.**

HOBSTONES
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The Perfect Diplomat
c£20,000

City based broking house is looking for a enthusiastic and professional secretary to work for their Chief Executive. You will need excellent organisational skills to coordinate client entertainment and run a hectic diary of businsss appointments, combined with fast secretarial skills (100/60) to keep up with the correspondence. A flexible attitude is essential, as you may be required to help out other executives, but you will be rewarded by regular hours (9 - 5.30) and an appreciative boss. Age 25 - 35. Financial experience essential.

Please telephone Kate Hodson on 071-377 8827 for further details.

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Work alongside the Managing Director of an expanding company and become his 'second skin'. He needs a bright, quick, intelligent graduate with excellent interpersonal/analytical skills to work with him; be his assistant; learn the ropes. You'll be in your 20's; very presentable with a positive approach; be computer literate with good secretarial skills (80/60) and want a career! The rewards are good – can you give it the dedication?

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Our client, a front running stockbroking company is seeking a committed assistant to work with a senior executive and his team. The successful candidate should have a finance related background with sound experience of presentation work using spreadsheets and desk top publishing. You will organise travel and meetings as well as supervise a junior clerk. There will be involvement with client entertainment and public relations. 55 wpm typing and extensive systems experience. Age 25-35 years.

Please telephone 071 628 9529

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To £18,000

Join this International Management Consultancy and provide a true PA function to a Senior Partner. A professional manner will enable you to handle volume telephone liaison and take action where appropriate, co-ordinate travel and provide valuable sec/admin support. Skills 100/60

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Join this elite property development firm and enjoy total involvement, as you assist with current development projects. Your previous property exp. will allow you to enjoy extensive liaison with high profile client representatives.

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Select suitable revenues for a programme of conferences & business forums as you maintain a marketing database. Liaise with int. clients/delegates & prepare presentations for which Apple Mac & 50 wpm Typing are ess. A personality with proven creative flair preferred.

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Leading Fashion and Fragrance House need a young, enthusiastic secretary to support three International Marketing executives. Responsibilities will include preparing materials for reports and marketing meetings, making all travel arrangements for your team and dealing with a wide range of telephone enquiries. Your good shorthand/typing skills and charm will help you achieve that sweet smell of success! Age 19-24. If you are looking for your first or second job please call Chioma Oji on 071-434 4512.

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Prestigious Secretarial College in Kensington requires a Business Skills Tutor. Knowledge of typewriting, word processing and Teeline shorthand essential. Formal secretarial background preferred and previous teaching experience would be an advantage.

Please telephone Sarah Gallagher on
071-373 3852

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required to join busy Estate Agents shorthand essential.

Reply to Nicky Chambers
44/48 Old Brompton Road
South Kensington
London SW7 3DZ
Tel: 071 589 1243
Fax: 071 589 1817

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EVENINGS.....
£17,000 + excl pkg

Working from 5-11pm in the Capital Markets dept of a prestigious European Investment Bank, you must have top-notch WP/Graphics skills + liaison & organisational abilities.

Call Emily Aldrich
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Please send your CV to: Fiona Revett, Stanhope Properties PLC, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, LONDON, W1X 6BP, Fax: 071 409 7209.

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PA to lively Director of Leading Public Relations Company. Age 22-28, speedy, efficient and confident. WC1, c£14,000

Germany Secretary for small Marketing product co, work in English mainly. Rural town in woods and hills south of Frankfurt. Self reliant, capable person with some experience. c£17,000.

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Join a winning team with this high-profile company who specialise in shopping-centre and other development. As Sec/PA to two young Surveyors you will handle diaries, meetings, lunches, client contact, general admin etc. Good grammar and reasonable numeracy required. Confident shorthand/typing (80/60) essential. Excellent benefits inc. free travel to work, free lunch etc. Lovely team environment. Age guide 22-32. Please call 071-493 0713.

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Exercise your initiative in a responsible and challenging appointment.

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A highly competitive salary to reflect experience and responsibility is offered. Write, in confidence, with CV to Director, Royal United Services Institute, Whitehall, London SW1A 2ET.

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Good salary plus prospects.

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GERMAN - English Legal Secretary. E Croydon. £8ph. afternoons considered. Write Wm Registrars, 16 William Mews, London SW1X 9HF.

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Exp PA/sec available. Good office skills, WP, fluent french, good Italian, versatile with a marketing & sales flair. Areas: Central London, City & S.E.

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JNR Sec/Administrator. Well known, contemporary art gallery in W1 needs a well spoken, personable youngster to join their team. Good typing plus admin lots of client contact. £9-10K. Adventure Personnel. 071 499 8992/629 8747.

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Three opportunities exist with prestigious City law firm for first class legal secretaries. Insolvency, property (with Italian speaking) and shipping experience advantageous. Excellent remunerative package and benefits are offered. Paid overtime is an option.

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Fax: 071 283 7526

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Bright, enthusiastic secretary for busy West London Surveyors. 50/50 typing/admin with good organisation and communication skills.

Send CV to Barnard Marcus
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Enjoy a diverse role as Administration and Personnel Manager of a large professional firm with stunning Mayfair offices. You will handle personnel, the car fleet, office services, budgeting etc. You will work closely with, and be able to stand in for, the Head of Administration who has a national brief for human resources, training and career development. Probably 28-40, you are fully experienced in a pure admin/personnel role although not necessarily IPM qualified.

Call 071 439 7001

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The Secretarial Consultants

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£17,500 + bonus

If you're an exceptional insolvency sec capable of producing a high volume of producing a high volume of typing, this Partner of a large team of solicitors needs your support. In return for your expertise, you can expect some of the best company benefits around.

Call TERESA AMOROSO, 071 638 0855.

Office Angels

PA/SECRETARY - £15,000

required for busy PR consultancy in friendly Wimbledon Village offices to work for MD and Account Director. You must have excellent organisation and prioritising skills, confidence and ability to deal with press and clients. If you are educated to 'A' level standard able to work on your own initiative with 60wpm, Wordperfect 5.1 and bookkeeping experience please telephone Clare on 081-944 1944.

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RECEPTION £15,000 Front-line role for very high-profile company based in Knightsbridge. Would suit a well presented, well spoken individual who enjoys dealing with people at all levels. You must be calm, capable and want to take on a pure reception role working with one another. Call Sarah immediately to hear more on 071 226 1888 (VWA Rec Cons).

SENIOR Receptionist urgently required for leading US software company. Minimum of 5 years reception experience and excellent presentation essential. Age 24-40. Salary £13,500 and health club membership. Please call Angela Mortimer Plc 071 726 8491.

£12,000 – Super Arts Co based in City req Sec/Switchboard op. with accurate typing. Stunning surroundings. Age up to 30s/s. Norma Skemp Rec: 071 222 6091.

LOVELY bosses in well known city firm are looking for an enthusiastic college leaver with German. Use your secretarial and language skills to talk to clients, read through correspondence and produce correspondence as well as organise their diaries and travel arrangements. This is a great opportunity for a confident candidate with 80 wpm shorthand and 45 wpm typing. Salary £10,500. Please telephone Jessica Trench on 071 377 9919 for further details. Hobstones Rec Cons.

NON-SECRETARIAL

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Requires lettings negotiator to deal with Central London luxury flats.

Two to three years' experience, written CV's only please to:

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I am a busy mother with 2 young children earning between £300-400pw. Interested? Please telephone 071 243 8686

INFORMATION Officer £18-23,000 AAE. Economic Consultancy seek experienced graduate to establish and manage an information service indepth knowledge of on-line database with WP, spreadsheets and record management is required. Post graduate qualifications preferred, but relevant experience considered. Call Hodge Recruitment (071) 629 8863.

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SECRETARIAL Recruitment Consultant with 12 months experience to work for prestigious W1 Consultancy. £16K+ Comm. Debbie 071 403 7588 Manley Summers Ltd.

TRAVEL Co-Ordinator req'd June-Aug for busy summer school office W1. Travel & WP experience essential; foreign languages useful. Salary c.£13,500 pa. 071-636 9602.

COLLEGE TO CAREER

JUNIOR Secretary with three months + exp needed to work in the personnel dept of an international Piccadilly based co. Excellent prospects exist if you are lively, friendly & above all, fast to learn. Sal c£10,000. Call Diane Denny on 071 255 1555 Meridian (Rec Cons).

SENIOR Receptionist urgently required for leading US software company. Minimum of 5 years reception experience and excellent presentation essential. Age 24-40. Salary £13,500 and health club membership. Please call Angela Mortimer Plc 071 726 8491.

SUPER SECRETARIES

ACADEMIC/educational background essential to work for two Historians of a well known charity. Methodical, calm and well organised secretarial backup is needed to ensure smooth running of their office. Excellent working environment and benefits. This position might suit someone returning to work. Skills 50wpm/WP. Age 30+. Based in Euston. Salary c£14,500. Please call Virginia on 071 434 4512 Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

ACE Opportunity c£18,000 Dynamic Business Man is looking for a Professional Assistant with excellent skills to provide meticulous secretarial /administrative support. This is an exciting opportunity to learn about corporate finance and assist him in crucial day-to-day matters. Proficiency in Microsoft Word for Windows and A'Levels essential; 90ish/60typ. If you are mature, sale and keen to be truly involved, please call Chioma on 071 434 4512. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

ADMIN Assistant with excellent telephone manner & immediate presentation for varied role within City Solicitors. Wordperfect 5.1. Salary neg. Age 30 - 45. Patricia Hart Recruitment 071 880 6008 Fax 071 631 3264

ADMIN PA to Personnel c£17,000+bens. Join High Profile City Bank 80% Admin 20% Sec (80wpm s/h) Diplomacy & charm with a sense of urgency pay. Ideal age 25-35. Phone Joan 071-374 2921.DD Rec Cons

ADVERTISING. This is an exciting opportunity for a young secretary to break into the fast moving world of advertising. Working for a small, yet prestigious company with high profile f.m.g.c. clients, you will have the chance to get fully involved. Excellent secretarial and communication skills essential. Sal. £14,000 + 25 days hols. Diane Denny on 071 255 1555 at Meridian (Rec Cons).

SECRETARY required for small busy office in Marylebone. Must be flexible, a good organiser & able to work on own initiative. M9 Word preferred Tel 071 262 2666.

SUPERSECRETARIES

A Legal or banking background? Unusually for the legal world, this City partner offers a high PA content, drafting documents liaising with his wealthy international client base & creating your own correspondence. Audio/Wang ess. £17,000 + subs, lunches + superb offices. Call 071 439 7001. Secretaries Plus - rec cons.

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ART GALLERY - seeks intelligent, literate, outgoing College Leaver or Junior sec Brilliant opening for s/one interested in art but ambitious to succeed in business too. Good typing (60 wpm) and A-Level education preferred. Hours 10 to 6 plus occ evenings/Saturdays. Salary to £10,000. Please call 071 493 6787 Gordon Yates Consultants.

AUDIO/WP Sec c£16,000 + O/T + Bens. 60 wpm typing + exc tel manner essential. 40% client contact + organising of top international Co. Next Employment 071 287 3664

c25,000 + med + pens + hvs - Superb opportunity for very computer literate sec (Microsoft Word for Windows, Excel or Lotus 123, Pagemaker) capable of creating newsletters/ presentational reports. Superb offices (EC2), very social & stable co. Aged 25-32 with 55+ typing & financial background, please call Maine-Tucker on 071 734 7341.

COLLEGE Leaver/2nd Jobber £12,000. Int'l West End based co seeks a mature candidate to work in the Directors office. to perform general sec work as well as liaise with clients. S/H 80 wpm rec. Call Manisela at Boyce Bilingual 071 287 6060.

CREATIVE Co-Ordinator c£15,000. No two days will be the same when you join this firm of established jewellers. You'll use your organisational abilities together with your interpersonal and secretarial skills (80/60). Please telephone 071 628 9529 - Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants.

DIRECTOR'S Sec. £17,000 Neg + bonus + O/T. 1:1 role in expanding City Management Consultants. 60 wpm Audio/WP ess. Age 23-35. Next Employment 071 287 3664.

FLOAT SEC £17,000. As float sec for this prestigious WI investment co. you will be allocated to various departments to assist with secretarial back up. 60 wpm typing and MS Word for Windows, an IBM exp. essential. Shorthand and exp. of Excel and Powerpoint useful. Excellent benefits including paid O/T and free lunch. Ideal if you are currently temping. Please telephone 071 499 8070 - Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants.

FUR + professional Sec/PA c£17,500 + Overtime + Benefits Top Co. 90/60 skills essential. Age 28-35. Next Employment 071 287 3664

PERSONNEL Administrator £20,000. Small, friendly and very successful company in Central London needs a strong all rounder to handle various areas, including personnel, office administration and some secretarial work. This is an up front role where maturity, diplomacy and excellent communication skills will be very important. Proven track record in personnel, together with administrative and secretarial experience essential. Age 28-40. Shorthand useful. Please call Melanie Hill on 071 377 9919. Hobstones Recruitment Consultants.

PROPERTY secretary required for established Chelsea Estate Agency. Good skills and phone manner essential. £14,000. Excellent prospects. Estate Agency Rec. 071 938 3855.

PUBLISHING. Not the job for a would-be editor, but this offers scope to get involved with an exciting, expanding business and create your own role. As PA/Secretary to the young energetic F.D with a marvellous sense of humour, you will handle quite a lot of admin as well as updating sales reports on the Lotus. Shorthand, WP5 1 + Lotus + a high energy level please. Age 28-40 £16,000 neg Call 071 459 7001 Secretaries Plus - rec cons.

£12,500 - 14,000 - Sec/Rec min typ 50wpm for a super property investment co. Based W1. Great atmosphere and fun people. Age early 20's. Norma Skemp Rec: 071 222 6091.

OFFICE Assistant/Secretary. Head of Department for small City Professional Consultancy has vacancy for skilled WP operator, knowledge of Apple Mac. Ability to work in a small team, skills in preparing confidential reports, audio and copy typing experience essential. Pref/exp in accessing databases. Salary negotiable. Preferred age 35-45. Full CV to PO Box 2015

PA for Celebrity £19,000 +, working Tues-Sat, long hours. 35+. Must have had relevant exp at sec celebrity level. Exc s/h & sec skills. Woman boss. Exp in entertainment & media fields ess. Contact Charlotte, Amanda Barrington Appointments (rec cons) 071 379 7007.

PA in SW1 for dynamic, busy and friendly company. 80/60 skills and communicator. Mid-Aged 24-35. c£18,000. Call Alice on 071 287 2044. Maddocton Jeffers Rec Ltd.

PA/Sec - to Regional Manager £14,000. Financial Services background necessary. Excellent presentation, self starter, 55+ prof. Contact Alison Reeve 071 734 7852

PA SEC s/h WP Op to Managing Director of prestigious brokers. £20,000 + Perks ass. 25-35. Sound work record with a financial background essn. Cel Apple. Agy. 071 734 1082.

£20,000 PA/Sec to dynamic Entrepreneur involved in Israeli & Jewish affairs SH/WP 100/60. 081 209 1858 Fame (Agy).

PA To MD, W1 International Co requires lively, self-motivated SH/WP/Sec with good admin skills and confident personality. Age 25-40. £18K. Cavendish Personnel 071 224 9897.

SECRETARIES To £13,000 Both these positions - one in the heart of London's West End, the other in the City, demand fast, accurate typing (WPS.1 preferred), efficient organisational abilities & good admin skills. Great promotional prospects. Call Teresa, Office Angels Recruitment Consultants. 071 638 0066.

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY FOR SW1

Essential qualifications: meticulous administration ability; fast shorthand and typing skills; computer literate; non-smoker. A large volume of paperwork is involved in the job. Must be able to cope at all levels in hectic office and be part of a team. Maturity of approach essential, age 25 plus. Salary negotiable. Apply in writing only, with a full c.v. to Mrs Barbara Auram, 5 King Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6QS.



SUPER SECRETARIES

£20k. PA to Chairman. If you are dynamic with good inter-personal skills combined with outstanding secretarial ability (100/60) age 23-35, you will enjoy the challenge of running a small friendly WI Co. 071 224 9897 Cavendish Personnel.

LEARN Legal £16,500. Age 20+. Prior Sec/s from a Banking or Accountancy background wanted to join a large city law practice. 5 'O' levels and 70 wpm audio essential. Call 071 836 0041. Status Rec Cons

LEGAL Sec/s £16,000-£19,000 We are inundated with vacancies for legal sec/s. From 2nd jobbers to S.H. P.A.'s in all areas of law. Call today 071 836 0041 Status Rec Cons.

MID'S PA £17,500 ass. Advertising Co. in W1. 100/60 skills ess. Age 25+. 30% Admin incl. recruiting secretarium. Next Employment 071 287 3664.

6 month maternity assignment/EOA. A sec/PA with good audio/WP skills is needed for the property department of this prestigious firm of fund managers. Salary to £15,000 pro rata WP 5.1 + rusty s/h. Cobbold & Davies Recruitment Ltd. 56 Bruton Place, W1. Tel: 071-493 7789.

NO Shorthand £16,000 + Benefits. Join this large Financial Organisation as Admin PA and enjoy a high level of responsibility. Oversee your dept in day to day operational matters and provide your highflying boss true PA backup. 60 wpm typing age 25-30. Call Leigh Rec 071 495 3820.

OFFICE Assistant/Secretary. Head of Department for small City Professional Consultancy has vacancy for skilled WP operator, knowledge of Apple Mac. Ability to work in a small team, skills in preparing confidential reports, audio and copy typing experience essential. Pref/exp in accessing databases. Salary negotiable. Preferred age 35-45. Full CV to PO Box 2015

PA for Celebrity £19,000 +, working Tues-Sat, long hours. 35+. Must have had relevant exp at sec celebrity level. Exc s/h & sec skills. Woman boss. Exp in entertainment & media fields ess. Contact Charlotte, Amanda Barrington Appointments (rec cons) 071 379 7007.

PA in SW1 for dynamic, busy and friendly company. 80/60 skills and communicator. Mid-Aged 24-35. c£18,000. Call Alice on 071 287 2044. Maddocton Jeffers Rec Ltd.

PA/Sec - to Regional Manager £14,000. Financial Services background necessary. Excellent presentation, self starter, 55+ prof. Contact Alison Reeve 071 734 7852

PA SEC s/h WP Op to Managing Director of prestigious brokers. £20,000 + Perks ass. 25-35. Sound work record with a financial background essn. Cel Apple. Agy. 071 734 1082.

£20,000 PA/Sec to dynamic Entrepreneur involved in Israeli & Jewish affairs SH/WP 100/60. 081 209 1858 Fame (Agy).

PA To MD, W1 International Co requires lively, self-motivated SH/WP/Sec with good admin skills and confident personality. Age 25-40. £18K. Cavendish Personnel 071 224 9897.

SECRETARIES To £13,000 Both these positions - one in the heart of London's West End, the other in the City, demand fast, accurate typing (WPS.1 preferred), efficient organisational abilities & good admin skills. Great promotional prospects. Call Teresa, Office Angels Recruitment Consultants. 071 638 0066.

RECEPTIONIST/PA to £18,000 + Mortgage Subsidy. Top City bank require a first class receptionist with solid secretarial skills. Assisting a Director, answering a switchboard and greeting the bank's clients are the main duties. Excellent grooming and speech are essential. Age to 30. Adam Pen Rec Cons Tel: 071 628 4984. Fax: 071 628 2392.

RECRUITMENT Asst £15,500 + O/T + Bens. Top Int'l Co. based in Exec. Rec Div. 60 wpm WP ess + exc presentation. Next Employment 071 287 3664.

SCHOOL Secretary/PA required for private school based W6. Varied admin & secretarial duties for which office management & supervisory experience are essential as well as a flexible attitude. Age 28-35. salary to £17,000. Please call Caroline Tuck on 071 437 6032 Hobsones Rec Cons.

£21,000 West London. Perfect opportunity for a top level secretary/ PA to look after a very busy Chairman's correspondence, travel arrangements and diary. He requires a good memory, a meticulous approach and an ability to tackle any task with energy and enthusiasm. To carry out this role successfully you need excellent audio/ typing skills and a good command of the English Language. (Ideally A'Level). Age 30+ Please call Virginia on 071 434 4512. Crone Corkill Rec Cons.

STEPPING STONES

JUNIOR Secretary £10,500 This leading City company seeks a college leaver with 80/50 skills and conversational German essential. Please telephone 071 628 9629 - Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants.

WINE MERCHANT-
LADBROKE GROVE - W11

We are looking for a bright, enthusiastic Secretary with good Shorthand and Typing to join young, energetic, highly motivated team. Primarily working for the MD, but also assisting sales team and becoming responsible for shipping. Aged 22-26. Salary neg. No agencies, please.

Please telephone Amanda on 071 727 6846.

Chairman's PA

Expanding City based Financial and Corporate PR Agency urgently require a calm and mature (25+) PA.

Must have previous PA experience and be able to work on own initiative under pressure to tight deadlines.

Fast accurate typing, audio and short-hand essential.

Please call 071-786 3261 and ask for Emma, or fax CV on 071-786 3589

SECRETARY

- Maternity Cover (3/4 months) - Required for Marketing Consultancy

Applicants should have extensive experience using Apple (Mac®ric and PageMaker), also knowledge of Harvard Graphics an advantage. Lively personality, excellent telephone manner and good keyboard skills essential. The ability to work well under pressure as a member of a small dynamic team as a pre-requisite.

Please send full CV to: Dept 16, PO Box 1388, Gerrards Cross, Bucks, SL9 9QA

BI-LINGUAL SEC

c.£16,000 Wimbledon

An exciting opportunity for a PA/Secretary with experience of working at a senior level within a fast moving environment. You should have fluent German, fast shorthand speeds and excellent communication skills.

Telephone:
081-947 4473
REED employment
9 Wimbledon Bridge
London SW19 7NW

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

A Born Organiser... to 18K

Excellent opportunity to work as PA to the training manager of this international marketing company. Organising roadshows, seminars and social events, researching venues, negotiating prices, arranging travel itineraries and troubleshooting.

A lively personality with lots of common sense is required. Solid background in conference organising, direct sales or marketing, professional and flexible attitude, good presentaion and excellent interpersonal skills. 60 wpm/Amipro WP and graphics/Excel and fluent spoken German. Age mid/late 20s.

Tel: 071-287 7788 - Fax: 071 499 5378
ANGELA MORTIMER INTERNATIONAL
Secretarial Recruitment Consultancy

BI-LINGUAL SECRETARY
To £16,000

Two very demanding Italians need a dedicated, unflappable PA to support them in this pressurised financial environment. Calling for Advanced WP5.1 skills, fluent Italian & a polished presentation, this is definitely not for clock-watchers!

Call LINDA CRAWFORD, 081 572 8787

Office Angels

COLLEGE LEAVER with German £11,000 S/H 80wpm, age 18-22 Eng MT standard. Good team player Call Boyce Bilingual 071 287 6060

FRENCH SH Secs req'd by renowned Intl cos in London and Home Counties Prev exp. £13-20,000. The Language Specialists Merrow Emp Agy. 071 499 3939.

FRENCH bil sec for busy mktng dept. Small team. Gd skills ess. Prev mkt exp useful. £16K + Perks. Language Matters Agy. 071 930 1811.

GERMAN And/Or Spanish speaking secretary £19,000 Group communications and Corporate Identity Directors seeks stylish professional keen to use initiative and take on responsibility. Your excellent secretarial and DTP skills will be fully utilised with preparing presentations, in-house news letters and corporate memos. 60 wpm typing & DTP experience essential. Age 25-35 max. Please telephone 071 499 8070 - Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants.

GERMAN plus one other fluent European language (in addition to English) for 5-month contracts in customer service positions. Training given. Salary to £14,000. Pls call Sabina Stewart on 071 434 4512. Crone Corkill Multilingual rec. cons.

GERMAN & French imp / exp/ cust services supervisor for S. London Co. Prev exp ess. Immed start, 6 months contract. Urgent! Language Matters Agy 071 930 1811.

GERMAN/Italian trilling PA sec for Mgr. Lots of respon & high lang content. To £17,000. The Language Specialists, Merrow Emp Agy. 071 499 3939.

GERMAN C/Leaver secs X 2 for intl cos. Excl career post. No exp req'd. From £10,000 + excl bens. The Language Specialists, Merrow Agy. 071 499 3939.

HAMBURG c£26,500 German speaking PA/Office Mgr is sought by Intnl drinks Co to run their office abroad. This is a responsible role requiring strong admin & organisational ability. Gd Typing, WP + min 3 yrs office exp. The Language Business 071 379 3189 (Rec Cons).

ITALIAN & German PA to N. London. £17,000+ Bens. European dept of this Int'l Co seeks an exp'd PA with exc/ Italian and German & good sec & translating skills to work at Managerial level. High lang content for a commited secretary aged 25+. Call Laura at Boyce Bilingual on 071 287 6060.

ITALIAN Corporate Finance Sec Lots of variety working for three Execs, organising travel, diary, liaising with clients & preparing reports. Typing 60wpm, dynamic, flexible approach. Wordperfect 5.1 Call Samantha Judd at Boyce Bilingual on 071 287 6060.

JAPANESE. Finance house in EC2 requires graduate calibre candidate to join their small and successful team. Varied role involves office management, PA duties and research. Use your written and spoken Japanese for international liaison and translation purposes. An excellent opportunity to progress into an analysts role for the right candidate. Age 22+. Salary £15,000 nas. Please telephone Victoria Herrington on 071 377 9919 for further details. Hobstones Rec Cons.

JAPANESE spkg snr sec. high profile role, mngmt level. Sal. neg. Link Appts 071 408 2180

PART-TIME/Temporary German bil sec to finance co. Excl rate. No SH. Immed start. The Language Specialists, Merrow Emp Agy. 071 499 3939.

SPANISH TEAM Sec - Corporate Finance. Team orientated sec to work in high pressure env. Lots busy & tight deadlines. Exp to m/t & fluent Spanish. Typ 60 wpm+ Audio exp. Wpertect 6.1 & 2yrs sec exp ess. Call in for an interview. Call Samantha Judd at Boyce Bilingual 071 287 6060.

PART TIME VACANCIES

The ST.JAMES'S *Secretarial* COLLEGE

Prestigious Secretarial College in Kensington requires a Business Skills Tutor. Knowledge of typewriting, word processing and Teeline shorthand essential. Formal secretarial background preferred and previous teaching experience would be an advantage.

Please telephone Sarah Gallagher on 071-373 3852

PART-TIME SECRETARY REQUIRED FOR CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

Part-time secretary required to assist PA in working for the Chairman and Corporate Development Director of a public company in small professional Belgravia office.

Applicants should be cheerful, confident, well organised and willing to become involved in all aspects of work for this busy team. Shorthand and WP experience essential.

Hours: 10-3, 3 days per week (negotiable).
Telephone Anne-Marie Turner on 071-730 5873

PART TIME PA

Sir Ralph Halpern requires a part time PA. Candidates must have excellent secretarial/ administration skills, working knowledge of Apple Mac computer/ Microsoft Word WP package. Minimum two years experience at board level. Capable of working on own initiative. Discretion, confidentiality and sense of humour essential. Based in central London with competitive salary.

Candidates should write to: Box No. 1906 enclosing CV (indicating current remuneration) and recent photograph.

£7,500 + Hols + Med + Pens for half a week! Well spoken rec (25+) wanted for extremely friendly, established trading co (W1). Call Maine-Tucker on 071 734 7341.

PART-TIME Payroll Assistant required for medium sized City firm. Duties will include inputting salary details on computer, weekly & hourly wage calculations, handling telephone queries and basic administration of their pension and benefits schemes. 17.5 hours a week to suit. Ideal for someone wishing to study or fit work hours around family. Previous payroll experience preferred. Salary £6,500. The Recruitment Company 071 831 1220

PART TIME Publishing, good typing/WP (no s/h or audio). Hrs: 12-30 - 5 daily. Package £9,500. Call 071 629 9648 King & Toben Rec Cons

£10,000 Sec for charming entrepreneur with Property interests. Numeracy important plus W.P exp. Hrs 9-5 5 days per week. Age 20-35 yrs. Norma Skemp Rec: 071 222 8091.

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CITY BANK URGENTLY REQUIRE EXPERT OPS. FOR LONG TERM TEMPORARY BOOKING COMMENCING 10TH/17TH/24TH MAY. WORKING ON A SHIFT BASIS INCORPORATING DAYS/EVES/NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS. (EXPOSURE TO COLOUR GRAPHICS AN ASSET).
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APPLEMAC Temps. If you know any of the following programs: Microsoft Word, Macwrite, Macdraw, Persuasion or Power Point and are interested in temping please call The Anthony Cook Bureau (Rec Cons) on 071 628 3355.

ARE you experienced on WP 5.1, MSW for Windows & Amipro? Do you have good secretarial skills? And are you available now? Then call Norma Skemp Rec: 071 222 8091.

6 month contract £17,000 Pro Rata. Based in the busy dealing floor you'll use your organisational and communication skills to the full. Related experience together with 80/55 skills, Wordperfect 5.1 and spreadsheets. Please telephone 071 628 9629 - Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants.

1 YEAR contract - W.P Admin Sec. 60wpm Copy/Audio MSWord for Windows, powerpoint, Macdraw & Excel exp. prof City Co. c£15,500 + perks. Tel: 071-486-7291 Opus Rec Cons.

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RARE Freehold house. Close Sloane Square. 4 Bedrooms. 2 Bathrooms. Garden. £485,000. Owner 071 730 2322.

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CHELSEA SW10 Unusual 3 bed flat on 3 floors on busy road. Spiral stairs, patio and parking 118 year lease. Excellent value for quick private sale £105,000 Tel: 071 351 7001

HOLLAND PARK period 2 bed flat ex cond. Sh/Fh £140,000 ovno 071 229 0412.

IMMACULATE studio flat off King's Road. low outgoings. £59,000 Tel: 071 350 2516

NOTTINGHILL, W11. Light, spacious, 2 bed maisonette, lge south facing recep with balcony. £189,000 071 243 0715

WANTED Family house, cash buyer to 1 million pounds. Telephone 071 352 8090

CITY & WEST END

BARBICAN & City For lists of widest select of flats from £55,000 Frank Harris & Co 071 600 7000

BARBICAN 2 bed flat on 5th flr. sth facing recep £96,000 Frank Harris & Co 071 600 7000

WANTED - Overseas Cash buyer wants to buy 2 bed flat in W1-2, SW1-7 071 499 8392. 10-12.

HOLBORN
EC1
STUDIO FLAT with separate kitchen and bathroom, located off th Gray's Inn Road near Chancery Lane.
No chain. £65,000 OVNO.
SEEKERS
SW1
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Ref 506

NEGOTIATORS REQUIRED
For Estate Agents
At Marble Arch
Sales Negotiator
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Must be non smokers
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Apartments available including studios from approx. £62,000
Daytime call 071-628 4848 or 071-628 4341
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MAYFAIR

APT W1/Mayfair £4,800pa 4 bdrms. 2 b. 2 rec. roof Gdn offers for life tenancy 0483 503951

NORTH OF THE THAMES

EXEC box at Queens Club equipped with spc. bed, bath, kit/din, recept. GCH. 1st flr. shd f/hd. £89K. 071 386 9937.

NEAR REGENTS PARK NW1 in lux developm apartm. 2 beds, 2 baths, 2 receps, lift, entryphone £245,000 Townhse: 3 beds, 2 baths, 2 receps. Bulthaup kitchen/diner. patio gdn. £255,000 Both 125 yr lease, under grnd parking poss. Orbany Estates 071 387 3929

STEPNEY 3 bed mid terrace. G.II cottage, still mild eccentrics. £85,000. 071 791 3318

W2. Durham Terrace. Pretty grnd/gdn mais in period blding. Recep. lge kit/brk. 2 dbl beds with e/s, bath + shwr rm. Clk, 40' gdn. C/h. Long lse. low outgoings. £145,000 OVNO Weekend 071 229 0831 or Weekdays 081 892 2846

FULHAM
6 yr old modern town house. Garage, 3 double bedrooms, reception, kitchen/breakfast rm, cloakrm, entrance hall, south west facing garden. Gas ch. F/h £175,000.
SQUIRE RADCLIFFE & PARTNERS
071 381 3553

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

BARNES Exceptional riverside ground floor garden flat. Original features. 3 beds, 2/3 reception. bathroom. Good-sized kitchen. GCH. OIRO £199,000 081 748 4706 or 0836 600222

BATTERSEA Lovely 2 bed flat overlooking park. 5 mins Chelsea, long lse, excel cond. £133,000. No agent. 071 978 6428 (day)/ 071 622 1696 (eve)

CLAPHAM Trouville Rd. Spacious 3 bed gr fl mais. Lge kit. S facing gdn. Good cond. Popular area. £112,500. 081 875 6598.

CLAPHAM NORTH Beautiful 1 bed garden flat. 5 minutes Victoria and Northern line. Striped floors, marble fireplace. £59,000. Tel: 071 738 6367.

CLAPHAM Trouville Rd. Spacious 3 bed gr fl mais. Lge kit. S facing gdn. Good cond. Popular area. £112,500. 081 875 6598.

EAST PUTNEY Lge bright modern house. 4 beds, 2 baths. Quiet location, west facing gdn. garage, freehold. No chain. £179,000 Tel: 081 789 9072 (h): 081 784 4098 (w)

PUTNEY Prestigious river road, through reception, conservatory kitchen-breakfm. 3 bed, 1 bath, 1 shower rm. 35ft garden. £189,000 081 789 2968

WESTMINSTER

WIMPOLE ST Spacious 2 bd flat 43years. Carpets and curtains. £109,000 071 637 1290.

BEDFORDSHIRE

GREEN OASIS Lovely views. Faces the village pond in Lower Sundon, nr Toddington, 10 min M1/BedPan St. Lge indv 4-bed hse, dbl gge, ½ acre. £140,000 ono. Tel: (0525) 873049

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

NORTH BUCKS Near Winslow - BR station 8 miles (Euston approx 40 mins). Attractive period family house in quiet hamlet. Large south-facing drawing room. 3 further receps. 5 beds. 3 baths (possible annexe if wished). Lovely gardens about ½ acre. OIRO £325,000 Raffety Buckland 0296 25682

COTSWOLDS

FREE GUIDE to period property for sale in the Cotswolds. Call Barringtons now 0285 640761

NORTH COTSWOLDS - Broadway. Cotswold house standing in 2 acres of garden. 4 principle reception rooms: recently re-fitted kitchen with aga: breakfast room: 6 bedrooms and dressing room. 5 bathrooms (4 en-suite); flat. Recently converted cottage. Swimming pool. 2 loose boxes. Nationwide Estate Agents, Broadway Office (0386) 852456

QUIET position. 1 mile Cheltenham race course. 4 bedroom well modernised freehold cottage property with 475 sq yard building plot. OIRO £160,000 Details 0242 674257.

SMALL DEVELOPMENT
Of two bedroomed new homes on the edge of village location. Overlooking farmland to the front Prices from £49,500.
TAYLER & FLETCHER
0608 644344
fax 0608 641001

DEVON & CORNWALL

NORTH WEST DEVON 4 bd frmhse with 3 bdrm annex + 7 retirement cotts producing gd income. Bargain £475,000. Details 0409 253106 (eves pls)

10 OWNERS CHOOSE their 5 weeks each year in a Cottage & Group Own the 30 acre farm by the sea with private indoor pool, sauna, gym, bar, tennis etc. 1/2/3 beds fully equipped & managed. £12,960 to £25,960. For brochure: Freepost JC, Hope Barton Farm, Hope Cove, S. Devon. TQ7 1BR. 0548 561393.

EAST ANGLIA

SAVILLS
SUFFOLK
Boxted Nr. Bury St. Edmunds, Sudbury 8 miles, Bury St. Edmunds 10 miles, Colchester 20 miles
Period country house set in an elevated position with outstanding rural views. 3 reception rooms, 2 studies, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, large attic playroom, office. Oil central heating. Part double glazing. About 1.75 acres (Further land and outbuildings may be available). Region £375,000.
Savills, Ipswich
(0473) 226191

EAST ANGLIA

ESSEX/SUFFOLK border. Det hse. Master bedrm + en shower, bath. 3 dble beds. 3 recs, lge kit, study, utility, sun lounge, dble garage. £170,000. Brochure 0284 828028 /0708 476351

HUNSTANTON Flat. 1 bed. 1 recep. warden controlled, ideal for retirement. £40,000ono Details 0485 600 750

NORFOLK Fully restored 19C cottage. 1 bed in conservation village. Ideal wkend retreat. £40,000 Tel 081 684 7903.

NORFOLK/SUFFOLK border det. period thatched cottage. 1.75 acres. £125,000 for brochure Tel 0502 77217

ESSEX

GREAT SALING Charming well maintained det thatched period cottage set in ½ acre garden with fine country views. 3 rec. 3 dble beds. 2 baths. 40 mins train London. £145,000 quick sale. 0371 850444.

HANTS., DORSET, AND I.O.W.

A 5 bed new det house on the Eastern Bank of the River Hamble with good access via M27. £165,000 Tel: Link Up Properties (0444) 457999

DORSET WILTS BORDER Quality family house area of local character. 3 recep. 5 beds. 2 baths. Aga kitchen, double garage, old brick, built for owner 1988, half mile BR Waterloo. £185,000 Tel. 0747 828213

HERTFORDSHIRE

ST ALBANS 7 bed, grade II listed Georgian house. 3 bthrms, basement, in conservation area. Coachblock provides 2 gges & 3 self cont. flats. Walled gdns, forecourt pkg. £380,000. Druce & Partners 0727 866 232

RADLETT, HERTS.
A house in the country.
Fields and farms on all sides, yet only 2 mins to M1 (Jn.5) and 2 mins to Radlett station (Kings X 25 mins). 5 beds, 3 receps, 2 baths, 23 ft kitchen, 30 ft music studio/games room, study, garage, large loft area. Oak beams and features. Mature garden almost 1 acre. Range of outbuildings. Close Haberdashers schools.
Private sale: £395,000.
Tel: 0923 855982.

KENT

CANTERBURY/DOVER Area. Spacious brick bungalow, magnificent views rolling countryside, 3 receps, 3 bedrms, super kit/breakfast, s/c granny annexe, dbl glazed, GCH, lge grge + ample parking, beautiful gdn. £129,000 (massive reduction). 0304 830631

REDUCED to £165,000 ono from £210,000. Forced sale. Charming 4 Bed hse in S'oaks no chain cash buyers only 0732 452838

WHITSTABLE 4 bed det house, 34ft lounge/diner, bathrm + 2 shower rms, summerhse. No chain. £112,000. 0227 275167

LINCOLNSHIRE

LINCOLNSHIRE - Barkston. Nr Grantham. Stone & Brick farmhouse with 6 beds, 2 recps, 2 baths, outbldgs, swm pool, tenn court, paddock. About 4.3 acres. Region £280,000. Strutt & Parker, (0858) 433123. JAS Martin & Co, (0522) 510234

OXFORDSHIRE

FLATS in wing of 18C Country House. 7 miles north of Oxford, set in Capability Brown Park. 2/3 bds. Prices £136,000/ £185,000. For Sale on long lease. Ring 071 370 1466 or Fax 071 370 0669.

SCOTLAND

EARLSTON Substantial discount available for early entry on this new spacious 7 apartment, luxury villa set on a corner site in beautiful borders countryside 40 minutes from Edin, close to Melrose. The property offers 3 public rooms and 4 bedrooms, with all of the usual features. Further particulars from David Gillespie on 0256 421415 during business hours or 0896 848122 at weekends.

SHETLAND
A unique opportunity to buy a small property (former Nurses House) on the island of Whalsay - "The Bonny Isle" - ideal for birdwatching, golf, sailing etc. Accom comprises: lnge, 2 beds, kit & bathrm. Further details from & all offers to Mrs G Garson General Administrator,
SHETLAND HEALTH BOARD
Brevik House, Lerwick
Shetland ZE1 0RB
Tel (0595) 6767
by 17th May 1993

SOMERSET & AVON

SOMERSET Crewkerne & Chard. For details of det houses & bungalows, all with Gch from £76-130,000 contact Charles Bishop Ltd on (0935) 22198

UNIQUE but difficult to describe this beautifully converted chapel, fine location. West Somerset/Exmoor. 3 beds, gge, garden, stream, views. £129,000. Tel: 0272 246999.

SURREY

EPSOM Owners leaving country and immaculate house and gardens in quiet, secluded close. 5 beds and spacious living, dining, breakfast/kitchen, bath, shower rooms. 6/10 minutes walk to town centre, schools and mainline stations to Waterloo, Victoria and London Bridge. 5 minutes drive M25, 30 minutes Heathrow/ Gatwick. £185,000. Tel: 0372 725540

NOW OPEN Ashfields, Alma Road, Reigate, Surrey. Junction 8, M25. This quality retirement development is situated within a mile of the town centre and railway station and offers good living accommodation and fully fitted kitchens. 1 & 2 bedroom apartments/ maisonettes for £64,950 - £86,950; 2 bedroom bungalows from £132,950 - £135,000. Sales centre and showhomes open 10am - 5pm, Thursday - Monday. Tel: Black Horse Agencies 0737 224920

OUTSTANDING 1 acre garden with magnificent views over wooded valley. Architect designed unique open plan 3 bed house. Croydon 4 mls, Excl schools, golf courses, riding. £190,000 ono. 081 657 8261.

WEST END 4 bed det hse cul de sac CH re-fit kit grge gdn many extras £140,000 0276 856126

CURCHODS
COBHAM - SURREY
2 outstanding new homes in an exclusive private setting - fabulous area 5,300 sq. ft., 5 beds, 4 baths, 4 receptions, conservatory, (1 with snooker room).
Fittings of the highest standard.
0932 860999
Inc. Sundays 10am-2pm.

SUSSEX

OLD BOSHAM
Fine Period House ext refurbed in the heart of the village. Only 60 yds from the water. 3 recep, 5 bed, 3 bath, lux kit
Price Guide £300,000
CHICHESTER 6 Miles
Period Farmhouse Listed grade 2. 4 recep, 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 clocks, sep office. 1½ acre feature gdns with lovely views. T/Court, S/Pool.
Price £330,000
HENRY ADAMS & PARTNERS
Tel 0243 533377

BRIGHTON Elegant 1st floor Regency seafront flat nr marina. Dble aspect casement windows to wide balcony. 2 dbl bdrms £120,000 ono. Tel: 071 987 9777

BRIGHTON 2 double bed Regency flat overlooking entrance to marina. Excellent decorative order. £89,950. Ring office hours 0273 620073.

BRIGHTON Stunning sea views. in v-ige 1 bed 1st flr balcony flat. 26ft drawing room, fab architecture. v-secure, unsurpassed. £58,000. 0435 866532

PERIOD COTTAGE 6 rooms secluded area in sailing country south of Chichester £129,000 Telephone 071 499-8913 or write to 6 Trebeck Street, London W1Y 7RL.

SIDLESHAM Nr Chichester. 1850's cottage + 'granny' anexe; 4 bed house, bath, kit, lounge/dining rm, conservatory, shower rm + 2 bed anexe, bath, kit, lounge & dining rm. Attractive gdns of ½ acre. Guide price £189,500. Offers invited. Tel Mr Newman 071 499 7789 wk days 10.00am-6.00pm

WALES

BRIDGEND Mid Glam. Gents Vic det res. ½ acre priv gdns. 5 beds, 4 recaps, 2 bath, no chain £220k ono. Tel: 0656 653865.

YORKSHIRE

£110,000 4 bedrooms. ½ acre. licensed cattery. 10 mins M62 J36. Tel:0405 704678.

COUNTRY RENTALS

E. ANGLIAN coast. 2 spacious aparts to let in restored Edwardian house on beautiful 350 acre island (tidal road). 80 miles London. pool, tennis. Good beaches, sailing £360/ £475 pcm 0621 88451 / 88273.

HAMPSHIRE - Pretty 4 bed house, centre of conservation village. Spacious accomm., very good condition. Nr. M3. 46 min Waterloo. 0266 64967.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Unique 4/5 bed family house in pretty village near Hemel Hempstead. With easy access to M1, M25 & BR station. Furnished & decorated to a very high standard. Must be seen £1,800pcm Halcyon 0438 367891

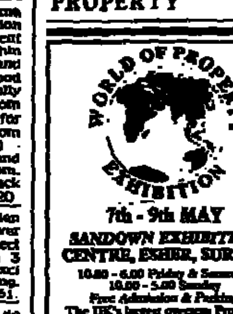
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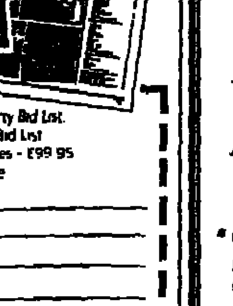
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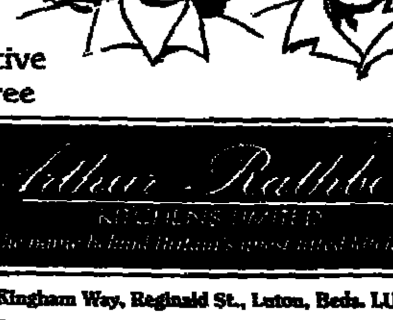
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Jams today, a new bridge tomorrow

What will a second Severn bridge mean to home owners and to business? **Vicky Ward** considers the implications for the people of Bristol and Wales

Bristol-dwellers making the break for Wales at the weekend need no reminding of the horrors of the Severn bridge. In the rush hour, traffic jams on the bridge, which is over-burdened with 19 million vehicles a year, extend for six miles each way.

The building of a second Severn crossing three miles downstream, to be completed in the spring of 1996, will do much to ease their plight and breathe new life into the property markets of rural Wales and Bristol.

The benefits for travellers from Bristol to Wales and vice versa will be infinite. With the new bridge intersecting extensions of the M4 and M5, not only will the volume of traffic be halved but rural Wales will be much more accessible from Bristol.

Magor, the town at the end of the Welsh side of the new bridge, is close to some of the prettiest countryside in Britain, an obvious bait for Bristolians who may be thinking of commuting.

> Commuters who settled well were those who brought their families

A rural landscape is not all Wales has to offer. There are cheaper shopping facilities, small tax bills — Newport levies the sixth lowest charge in Britain — endless leisure facilities, particularly golf courses, and cultural centres such as St David's concert hall in Cardiff.

Nonetheless, local estate agents hesitate before predicting a definite surge of buyers in the 1996 residential market, since price differences have levelled off since the 1980s boom when the discrepancy between England and south-west Wales could be as much as 30 per cent.

Now there is still a difference of about 10 per cent in town houses — a three-bedroom house in Bristol might cost £65,000 whereas the Welsh equivalent would be £50,000 — but in rural areas the difference is almost negligible.

In addition, the Welsh housing market has been affected by the demise of the poll tax. In South Wales it was roughly £200 a year compared with Bristol's £500 — another obvious incentive to 1980s buyers. Now several of those have moved back to Bristol, claiming that some houses can be bought more cheaply there.

The real benefit of the bridge will be for buyers such as Lindsay Seagrim-Trinder and her husband Alistair, an instructor at Bristol's motorcycle school. They bought their 100-year-old terraced house in Rogiet, only three miles from the site of the new bridge, for £31,000 in January and say the new bridge will transform their lives.

"The present congestion is a real hindrance," Mrs Seagrim-Trinder says. "Our purchase will be that much better when the new bridge is finished. On one side we will just be able to see it from a bedroom window and on the other we will look on to fields and countryside."

Mrs Seagrim-Trinder also has large numbers of her family living in Wales. Local estate agents found that commuters who settled well in Wales were those who brought their family with them, since the cultural differences on either side of the river bank can cause difficulties.

English people do not necessarily find it easy to adjust to the lifestyle of small Welsh communities and, for those whose previous social life has been Bristol-orientated, a change can be virtually futile unless you really want to make it your home, says Jane Venner-Pack, a spokeswoman for Black Horse agencies. Several businessmen who made the transition found that they went back to Wales only to sleep, she says.

But Wales is changing. The bridge is likely to be of huge commercial benefit to both sides. It was the Welsh CBI which was the main lobbyist for the second bridge, claiming that it was an essential lifeline for easing distribution to Britain and continental Europe. The commercial property market is showing promising signs: several relocations have taken place on both sides and ICI, which owns 1,000 acres just south of Pilning, at the Bristol end of the new bridge, is hoping to expand into the Welsh market.

Meanwhile 1,000 skilled local workers are being drafted in to help with the construction, which, according to Bob Neil, of Alder King, a group of consulting surveyors, will be virtually windproof, unlike its predecessor, which is frequently shut during gales.

A further bonus is that the local countryside commission is planning to build a forest close by to avoid the place resembling the bleak industrial landscape of Germany's Ruhr Valley.

The only possible detraction from buying in Wales is the bridge toll. The bridge will be impressive and has to be paid for — three miles long with a multi-span viaduct approach at either end, its main pylon towers will be 137 metres high. It will be made of 320,000 cubic metres of concrete and 30,000 tons of steel. It is costing its owners, Severn River Crossing, £300 million.

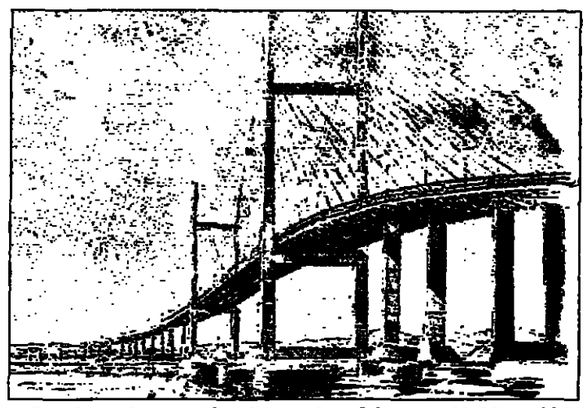
In January of this year, the tolls of the existing bridge took an enormous leap from £1 a car to £3.10. The rise was concomitant with the privatisation of the bridge and the toll will now keep pace with inflation.

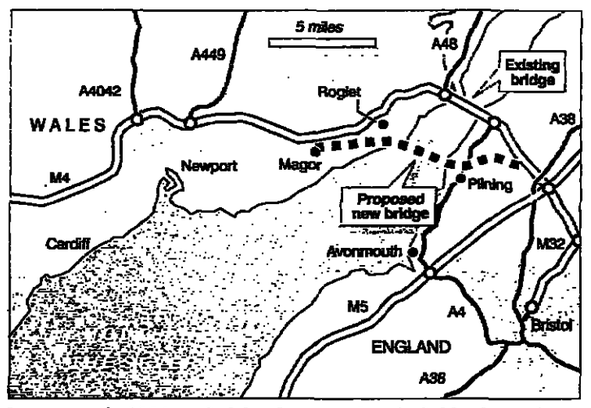
A van driver has to pay £6.20 and a heavy goods vehicle driver £9.30. The tolls of the new bridge are expected to be similar.

There is an answer. The Seagrim-Trinders avoid paying by crossing by motorbike.



Lives transformed: the Seagrim-Trinders outside their 100-year-old terraced house in Rogiet, only three miles from the new bridge





Crossing point: an artist's impression of the second bridge, which is due to open in 1996, and, right, the route that the bridge is to take

Salute to the past

Will buyers go marching in?

The march of time has overwhelmed the imposing Jellalabad barracks in Taunton, which is now for sale, more than 30 years after the Somerset Light Infantry marched out. Its 3.5 acres of land is being sold lock, stock and parade ground with planning permission for business and residential use. *Christine Webb writes.*

Built in 1879, the barracks's two accommodation blocks were designed for more than 400 men. A Grade II listed, four-storey keep, which looks like a castle, forms the main entrance.

In 1881, the buildings became the main billet of the Somerset Light Infantry, and were renamed after the regiment's defence of Jellalabad in 1841, during the first Afghan war. The regiment stayed until 1959 when the Somerset Light Infantry amalgamated with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry to form the Light Division based at Winchester. After 1960, the barracks housed the Royal Army Pay Corps until 1987, when the Royal Naval Hydrographic Centre took over because, ironically, the roof of its Taunton buildings had sprung a leak.

Now the army considers the barracks surplus to requirements. The agent, Chesterton of Taunton, invites formal tenders by noon on June 16.

Nigel Hounslow, of Chesterton, said: "Development ideas include a residential care home, nursing home, a hospital and high-class homes. The barracks has planning permission for business and residential use and is not in bad condition."

Lot 1 includes the keep and the barracks blocks, which between them could accommodate 36 flats. Lot 2 is 20 flats, lot 3 is several brick buildings plus land with permission for two houses and lot 4 is a fine town house.

When life is fully rounded

Brightening opportunities as lighthouses go on the market

Anyone who nurtured a romantic notion of becoming a lighthouse-keeper might now enjoy the more practical option of buying a home once occupied by Trinity House keepers.

Trinity House has gradually automated its coastal lights and is selling the surplus.

Two of them, one at Whitby, in North Yorkshire, the other at Dungeness, Kent, are now for sale.

Dungeness might appear the more interesting. It is round, having been built at the base of one of the lighthouses that have been raised in succession since the early 17th century.

The first light, granted by James I, was merely a coal fire intended to warn shipping of the enormous tongue of sand and shingle on which a thousand seamen perished in just one winter gale.

In 1635, a tower topped by a coal fire was built on the point, nearer the retreating sea, but by 1746 it was left high and dry so in 1772 Samuel Wyatt built a 116ft tower, lit by 18 sperm whale oil lamps, which lasted 100 years. Lighthouse keepers' quarters were built circling the base, but soon the sea had gone again. In 1904, a 136ft tower was opened, which now stands 500 yards from the high water mark. Wyatt's tower was demolished, but the accommodation was left standing, and is for sale.

The Round House is divided in segments, rather like a box of cheese spread, but the points of rooms are cut off on the first floor because there is a central courtyard.

The two-storey circle is split into two three-bedroom dwellings, and a third, office segment, but could be converted into one unusual home. It has double glazing and central heating, useful assets in such an exposed place.

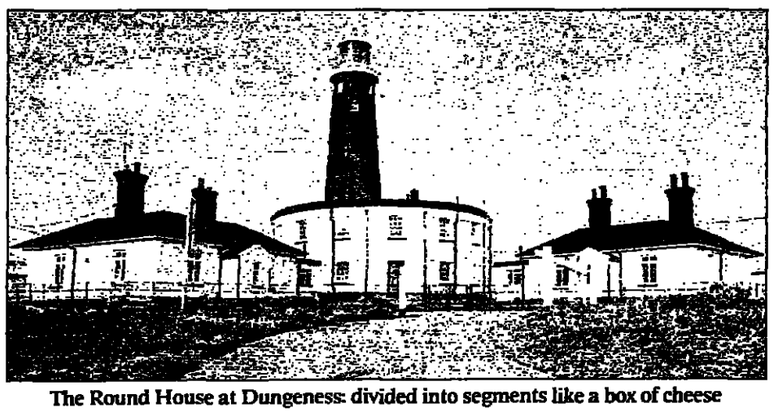
The building is flanked by two keepers' bungalows, which have already been sold, by the 1904 lighthouse, which no longer operates, and by a nuclear power station. The Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch miniature railway whistles past it, which might be useful for commuting to Hythe, 20 minutes away. The Round House is on the market with Black Horse agency Geerling and Colyer of New Romney at £99,995.

By contrast, the sea may be advancing on the former keepers' dwelling and fog signal house near Whitby, a more conventional building, with glorious unspoilt sea views.

A surveyor estimates it should be safe from coastal erosion for 25 years, the maximum time he is allowed to predict.

The house stands in nearly an acre and is split into two units: a three-bedroom apartment, and a bedsit with its own kitchen and bathroom. Some of the original brass fittings remain. It is being offered at about £60,000 by Nationwide of Whitby.

CHRISTINE WEBB



The Round House at Dungeness: divided into segments like a box of cheese

Hard lessons

Problems for a residential school put another Lutyens on the market

Woolverstone House in Suffolk has just been put up for sale, making the number of Lutyens houses now on the market up to 17. The beautiful building, with deep rooflines and many unspoilt original features, is a short walk from the mudflat of the Orwell estuary near Ipswich.

In four acres of gardens, it has been used for the past two years as a residential study centre, giving up to 1,200 pupils the opportunity to learn about geography, history and their heritage.

Residential study centres are places where schoolchildren can broaden their education while learning to live away from home. But many are under threat as local education authority funding is steadily eroded.

There is the option for schools to buy the centres, as the North Westminster community school, of north London, did with Woolverstone House, in the village of the same name. Sadly — and mainly because of the recession — the school's enterprising venture has come a cropper.

Michael Marland, the head teacher, says: "We spent months looking for a suitable location and were delighted when we found Woolverstone. It cost £425,000 and was bought by the North Westminster school charitable trust in April 1991. About £125,000 of school voluntary funds was allocated to help with the purchase and fittings; the rest came from the National Westminster Bank on a fixed high-interest mortgage.

"When it became more and more difficult to pay back the loan, we decided to allow other schools to use the house, but we did not have the funds to market it properly. On March 8, the trust went into liquidation."

The house was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens in 1901 for Lady Berners and has a chequered history. It was originally run by nuns as an "industrial school" for girls of single-parent families. It then became the Woolverstone estate manager's home until 1938, when the whole village was bought by Lord Nuffield, who gave the house to Oxford University.

During the war, it was a home for injured soldiers. Then the Inner London Education Authority leased it for use as a dormitory for a nearby school before it was bought for the North Westminster school.

The house is likely to be put on the market at about £400,000, which is £125,000 less than the trust paid for it.

● *Agent: Smith Woolley of Cambridge (0223 352566).*

MARY WILSON

Woolverstone House: to be offered at about £350,000

PROPERTY

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Haute-Loire. Grandrieu. Country house, barn, old mill and outbuildings. The whole requiring some restoration. Private canal with waterfall. Set in 1 ha wooded grounds. 450 000 FF. REF 2910 PH



Charente-Maritime. 4 kms from Jonzac. 15 kms from A10. 40 kms from the sea and 70 kms from Bordeaux. Detached house built in 1980. 200 sqm living space set in 5 000 sqm wooded grounds. 100 sqm terrace, 2 outdoor-garages. Entrance, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 60 sqm room with fitted kitchen, fireplace, sitting room, mezzanine, storeroom, cellar. CH. Alarm. High quality fittings. 1 200 000 FF. REF 2906 PH

Var. Cogolin. Gulf of Saint-Tropez. Flat in a village house. 2 levels (2nd and 3rd floor). 100 sqm, fully renovated. 12 sqm full south facing terrace with unimpeded view. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, sitting room with fireplace, equipped kitchen, dining area, 2 storerooms. Village centre. 5 kms from the sea. 1 000 000 FF. REF 2907

Vaucluse. 1 km from Crillon-le-Brave. At the foot of the Mont-Ventoux. Stone house, south facing. 90 sqm living space. 3 bedrooms, equipped kitchen and bathroom. Living room with fireplace, sitting room, terrace, EH, swimming pool (8x4), pool house. 50 sqm outbuildings. 1 250 000 FF. REF 2909

Var. Valescure/St-Raphael. In the middle of the new Esterel golf course. 2-room flat, 48 sqm living space. Garden level. Bathroom, separated kitchen. Private garden. In a block of comfortable flats with a pool. 750 000 FF. REF 2921

Var. Iasambres. 5 mins. from the sea. 2-room flat + mezzanine, 44 sqm living space. Balcony with nice sea views. 90 sqm terrace. On a development with free tennis courts and pool. Low charges. 750 000 FF. REF 2922



Pyrénées-Atlantiques. Basque Coast. 12 kms from Bayonne and the Ocean. 1 hour from ski-resort. Beautiful villa, 340 sqm living space. Superb view onto river and mountains. GF : entrance, kitchen, living room with fireplace, dining room, bedroom, bathroom. Upstairs : 3 bedrooms with balcony, 2 bathrooms, dressing room. Basement : games room, wine cellar. Garden level : bedroom, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom. Set in 8 000 sqm wooded grounds. Swimming pool, 50 sqm terrace. 2-car garage. 1 450 000 FF. REF 2911 PH



Picardie. Somme. Forceville-en-Vimeu. 150 kms from Paris. 30 kms from the sea. Restored cottage, all modern conveniences. 90 sqm living space. Set in 810 sqm landscaped garden. Double living room, kitchen/dining room, bathroom, 2 attic bedrooms, veranda, fireplaces, exposed beams, wine cellar. Central heating. 270 000 FF. REF 2918

Savoie. Fribourg. Near Champagny. At the foot of the Vanoise park. Left part of an old renovated house. Equipped vaulted kitchen, sitting room, 4 bedrooms, shower, bathroom, 2 fireplaces. 570 000 FF. REF 2919



Alpes-Maritimes. Near the Italian border. 40 kms from Monaco. 500 m high. Full south facing property. Surrounded by mountains and forests. Old house (partly dating XVIth-century) fully renovated, all modern conveniences. 180 sqm living space + 50 sqm garden level to convert. Vaulted living room with fireplace, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 showers. Set in 2 ha grounds (fruit trees, vineyard). Swimming pool possible. River. 3 500 000 FF. REF 2902 PH



Côte-d'Azur. Cannes. Spacious villa (5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms) in a private estate. Tennis courts, 2 swimming pools, garages. Fantastic view. Parts of the Château de Castellaras. 7 500 000 FF. REF 2926



Languedoc. Gard. Village setting. 10 kms from Uzès. Villa set in 4 200 sqm grounds. 180 sqm living space : entrance, kitchen, 70 sqm living room, covered terrace, 4 bedrooms, bath, 2 showers, workshop, laundry, cellar, garage. Games room. Water boring. Swimming pool. 2 200 000 FF. To discuss REF 2920PH

Dordogne. Gaia Périgueux. XXIth-century mansion (2 800 sqft dwelling area) : 3 bedrooms, office, living/dining room, kitchen, bath, central heating. Outside premises : 2 car-garage, stable, barn. 2,5 acres park, 40 acres timber forest. 2 700 000 FF. Tel. : 1.43.02.84.19 REF 2904



Cher. La Celle Condé. L-shaped farmhouse. 3 hours from Paris. Luxury renovated. 280 sqm outbuildings. 17 ha fields, wood, vineyard, orchard, landscaped garden. 8 000 sqm pond. Automatic sprinkler. 5 bedrooms, 4 rooms. 50 sqm cathedral living room, 2 showers, fireplace, baker's oven in a modern kitchen, equipped laundry, new central heating, veranda, terrace, south facing. 1 200 000 FF. Tel. : 48.60.11.95 REF 2914 PH

Aveyron. Exceptional Site. Furnished freestone house. In course of restoration. New roof. Equipped American-style kitchen. 40 sqm dining room with a bay window opening onto a south facing terrace. Living room with fireplace, baker's oven, 2nd terrace. Upstairs : 2 bedrooms, 60 sqm barn with stone staircase. Parquet flooring, exposed beams. Set in 1 ha meadows + 2 ha chestnut grove. Hunting, fishing area. 30 mins. from the Lot Valley, 90 mins. from ski-resort. 400 000 FF. Tel.: 1.39.52.05.70 after 7 pm. REF 2916



Ardèche. Rochecolombe. Gorges de l'Ardèche. Medieval village. Stone-house of character fully restored. 4 rooms, mezzanine, 80 sqm. All modern conveniences. Large terrace. Protected site. 450 000 FF. *REF 2912 PH*

Auvergne. Massif Central. Country house fully renovated. In a mountain village. 137 sqm living space, cellar, boiler. GF : large living/sitting room, kitchen, study, workshop. Upstairs : 4 bedrooms, bathroom. 280 000 FF. Tel. : 1.43.02.46.81 REF 2901

Normandy. Seine-Maritime. Berneval-le-Grand. 10 kms from Dieppe. Residence on 2 levels + small independent house set in 1 100 sqm enclosed and wooded grounds. 5 mins. from the beach. Large living room, shower, bedroom. Upstairs : 4 bedrooms, OCH, large terrace, garage, storeroom. Needs repainting. 500 000 FF. REF 2928

Ile d'Oléron. Charente-Maritime Saint-Denis. Studio, fully equipped and furnished, shower. 26,50 sqm living space 32,07 sqm enclosed garden. Car park. 315 000 FF. REF 2924

Loire-et-Cher. Perche country. 40 mins. from Paris by TGV. Near the Loire châteaux. Late XIXth-century property set in 7 ha grounds with a 3 ha enclosed wooded park, trees a hundred years old. Orchard. Main house : ground floor opening onto a large terrace, sitting room, dining room, winter garden, study, equipped kitchen, annexes. 1st floor : library/games room. Annex house : 2-room flat with kitchen on the ground floor, 2 bedrooms upstairs + convertible attic. Half timbered house, baker's oven, stables, outbuildings. The whole is fully restored. 3 800 000 FF. REF 2903

Drôme. Touristic area. Farmhouse in very good order, 210 sqm living space. Divided into 3 flats. 10 rooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 terraces (44 sqm), 2 storerooms (24 sqm), garage, gaz and wood heating. 300 sqm outbuildings. 200 sqm vaulted cellar. 3,84 ha lands, 9,67 ha woods, 1 ha mood. 950 000 FF. REF 2930

Côte-d'Azur. Var. Lorgues. 25 kms from the sea. Provençal-style mas, 301 sqm living space. Living room with fireplace, fitted kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, garage, storeroom, linen room, cellar. Pool house, swimming pool, summer kitchen. Set in 5 000 sqm enclosed grounds with a 3 000 sqm lawn. Tennis court possible. 2 880 000 FF. REF 2937

LAND FOR SALE

Brittany. Finistère. Penmarc'h. 469 sqm building land, 500 m from town and beach. Water, Electricity and telephone on the bordering path. Caravan. 70 000 FF. REF 2935I

PARIS AND ITS AREA

Paris, 11. Place de la Nation. 3-room flat, 50 sqm living space. Entrance, living room, 2 bedrooms (parquet flooring, fireplaces, mouldings). Kitchen, shower, dressing room. Individual gas heating. Low charges. Pleasant quarter. 890 000 FF. REF 2938

Essonne. Bretigny-sur-Orge. 900 m from railway and RER-stations. 25 mins. from Paris. Near all facilities. Semi-detached stone house. Kitchen, dining room, 3 bedrooms, 40 sqm garage, 220 sqm grounds. 730 000 FF. REF 2909

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Spain. Costa-Brava. Llança. Bar/restaurant + 2 flats (4 rooms and 3 rooms). The whole 480 sqm. Unimpeded view onto the sea. 2 rooms of 70 seats each + 70 seats on a 3-level-terrace. Fully equipped. Good turnover. Business to develop. 9 500 000 FF. *REF 2913c*

Loiret. North of Orléans. 3-star-Hotel. 38 new bedrooms, 2 restaurants, 3 meeting rooms, gymnasium. Planning permission for 15 additional rooms. REF 2925c

Côte-d'Azur. Nice centre. 100 m from Promenade des Anglais and a pedestrian street. 60 sqm clothes shop, new equipments, air conditioning, alarm ... Suitable for other business. Monthly letting : 4 000 FF. Business : 1 200 000 FF. Double surface possible. REF 2934c

OTHER COUNTRIES

Spain. Mallorque. 17 kms from Porto Colom, Porto Petro, Estrenc. Charming finca, (typical decoration. 3 bedrooms, swimming pool. Superb unimpeded view. Peaceful setting. 8 000 sqm grounds with plantations. 850 000 FF. Tel. : 1.42.06.26.85 REF 2917e

HOLIDAY-LET

Vaucluse. Entraigues. 10 mins. from the festival of Avignon. *Spacious 5-room villa (180 sqm) for 8/10 persons.* Set in 2 000 sqm wooded and fenced garden. Near all facilities. 2 large covered terraces, barbecue. All modern conveniences. Household linen provided. July : 20 000 FF. monthly, 10 000 FF. for 2 weeks. REF 2905c

To call France Dial : 010.33

A gamble that Taylor refused to take

David Miller believes the England football manager was right to reject Waddle for tonight's vital match

There are not too many apologists for Graham Taylor. England's team manager deserves to be defended, however, against criticism for his exclusion of Chris Waddle from tonight's World Cup qualifying tie against Holland at Wembley.

Waddle's performances for England are not unlike grandparents' involvement with their grandchildren: providing fun, but taking none of the long-term responsibility.

Selecting Waddle for international matches — as opposed to a regular club team — is something of a lottery: no different from selecting, down the years, Len Shackleton, Peter Thompson, Rodney Marsh, Stan Bowles, Tony Currie and Glenn Hoddle. You cannot be sure what you will get; and the team, moreover, has to be partially designed especially to accommodate them, which in turn makes the team as much potentially vulnerable as match-winning.

A club team, Tottenham or Marseilles or Sheffield Wednesday, can accommodate Waddle, just as Liverpool can accommodate Barnes, because they work together five days a week, nine months a year, and understand how to blend.

Even then, as we saw in Wednesday's consecutive recent Wembley appearances against Sheffield United and Arsenal, or Liverpool's final against Wimbledon a few years back, Waddle and Barnes can fail as conspicuously as they can succeed. Maybe Holland would not have known what to expect from Waddle tonight. Nor would England. He might have won the match in two touches, or done nothing, as against Arsenal ten days ago. He might have been the central figure, as against West Germany in the World Cup semi-final, or as inconsequential as against Holland in the goalless draw during the 1990 World Cup finals.

Taylor is not helped by critical comments from such as Kevin Keegan, a former England captain, who said that he would like to know a better player than Waddle in the land. Keegan, of all people, should know better. With only a fraction of Waddle's talent, Keegan made himself a great international player by sheer will-power and application, and scored 21 goals in 63 matches, while Waddle has scored six in 61. Taylor is quite justified in resisting the public clamour for Waddle, just as Alf Ramsey was for the younger Peter Osgood in the Seventies. Where Taylor may have made a misjudgment, in my opinion, is in the omission of Paul Merson, who so overshadowed Waddle in the Coca-Cola Cup final, as well as being the decisive figure in the FA Cup semi-final against Tottenham.

The key to tonight's match, Taylor has stated — a match neither side can afford to lose — is that England must carry the game to opponents who do not like defending, and are unsettled by the absence of five important players who are injured. Bad luck is not confined to England.

Even without Koeman in defence, Van Aerle, Kieft and Yonk in midfield and Van Basten in attack, Holland will threaten if allowed to settle on the ball. Wouters, Witsge, Bergkamp and the young Overmars can play. Though Barnes played intelligently in midfield against Turkey in Izmir, Merson would have been much more likely to drive England forward, given that Platt is now playing in attack. Merson has that German quality of resolution.

It is sensible, I think, to have included Keown to mark Gullit. Nor should the Dutch be overestimated. Their game is on the downbeat, with declining domestic crowds and many players absent overseas: They lost to Norway, and will be more worried than England tonight. This is an occasion for England to be positive, Keegan-style. Or rather, Platt-style.

Scotland need to find form

From Roddy Forsyth in Lisbon

SCOTLAND must win in Portugal for the first time this evening if they are to restore themselves as serious contenders to qualify for the World Cup finals. In considering his options for this crucial group one fixture, Andy Roxburgh, the Scotland coach, admitted yesterday that he had faced an unusually complex tactical problem.

"The only real area where I have had to think very seriously about my selection is in central midfield, because we have a lot of players challenging for these positions who are playing very well for their clubs," Roxburgh said. "That has been as agonising a decision as I have had to make in a long time."

Since, as is his custom before important games, he declined to offer any clues about his decision, one can only speculate about the likely solution, but Roxburgh has considered McCall, Ferguson and Durrant, of Rangers, along with McClair, of Manchester United, for the central roles. He did indicate that he had also thought of whether to prefer McClair to Gallacher as an attacking partner for McCoist.

If McClair is chosen, it seems likely that he and McCoist will be asked not only to lead the line but to push on to the opposing defenders when Portugal have possession at the back. McClair was employed in this fashion alongside Graeme Sharp when Scotland beat Bulgaria in Sofia in a European championship qualifying fixture in November 1987 and occasionally since.

If Roxburgh does decide to employ McClair in attack, he will probably use five in midfield, with McKimmie, of Aberdeen, on the right flank and Collins, of Celtic, on the left, in shuttle roles that would see them drop back to supplement a defensive trio of Gough and McPherson, of Rangers, and Levein, of Heart of Midlothian, Levein being the sweeper.

"I have the feeling that this particular game could come down to set-plays," Roxburgh said. "I have watched Portugal over a year and a half and in that time they have only scored twice from open play, although interestingly they did it in their last match against Switzerland."

"A free kick brought their only goal against Malta and corner kicks led to their goals against Hungary, Austria and Italy. We will also be a big threat at corner kicks because of the height and power of Gough and McPherson. It may be from such situations that the game is won and lost."

The chief worry for the Scots remains Futre, the most inventive and dangerous Portugal player, particularly in the absence of the injured McLaren, who would have been detailed to police the forward.

The Scots know victory in this match is vital to their hopes of reaching the World Cup finals for the sixth time in succession.

PORTUGAL (probable): V Baia; A Xavier, F Couto, A Veloso, O Cruz, E Peixe, P Sousa, J Semedo, R Costa, J Cadete, P Futre.
SCOTLAND (probable): A Goram (Rangers), C Levein (Heart of Midlothian), D McPherson (Rangers), R Gough (Rangers), S McKimmie (Aberdeen), I Ferguson (Rangers), P McStay (Celtic), S McCall (Rangers), J Collins (Celtic), A McCoist (Rangers), B McClair (Manchester United).



Key man: McClair may be asked to play either in midfield or attack

GROUP ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Switzerland	6	4	2	0	17	4	10
Italy	6	4	2	0	15	5	10
Scotland	4	1	2	1	4	3	4
Portugal	4	1	2	1	3	4	4
Estonia	3	0	1	3	0	8	1
Malta	6	0	1	5	2	14	1

RESULTS: Estonia 0, Switzerland 6; Switzerland 3, Scotland 1; Italy 2, Switzerland 2; Scotland 0, Portugal 0; Malta 0, Estonia 0; Scotland 0, Italy 0; Switzerland 3, Malta 0; Malta 1, Italy 2; Malta 0, Portugal 1; Scotland 3, Malta 0; Portugal 1, Italy 3; Italy 6, Malta 1; Switzerland 1, Portugal 1; Italy 2, Estonia 0; Malta 0, Switzerland 2.
FIXTURES: Today: Portugal v Scotland. May 1: Switzerland v Italy. May 12: Estonia v Malta. May 19: Estonia v Scotland. Jun 2: Scotland v Estonia. Jun 19: Portugal v Malta. Sept 5: Estonia v Portugal. Sept 8: Scotland v Switzerland. Sept 22: Estonia v Italy. Oct 13: Portugal v Switzerland; Italy v Scotland. Nov 10: Portugal v Estonia. Nov 17: Italy v Portugal, Malta v Scotland; Switzerland v Estonia.

Charlton forced to reshuffle as Moran limps out

From Peter Ball in Dublin

IRELAND will go into their group three match against Denmark here this afternoon with an emergency left back to counter the Danes' most potent attacking force, Brian Laudrup. Eddie McGoldrick was yesterday drafted into a position he has not occupied all season.

The threat from the Danish midfield was a major factor in Charlton's decision not to move Steve Staunton back to his club position.

The back four was further disrupted when Kevin Moran pulled up with a hamstring injury during training. He will be replaced by Alan Kernaghan, who played well in the 0-0 draw in Copenhagen. With Denmark's capacity to counter-attack quickly, his pace may be an asset.

Richard Moller Nielsen, the Denmark coach, was refusing to reveal his hand yesterday but Charlton does not hide his respect for Laudrup. He is also concerned that if Denmark decide to line up with five players in midfield it will pose problems for Ireland.

The midfield, one of Denmark's great strengths in Sweden, is less imposing now with both Jensen and Larson failing to get regular first-team football at Highbury and Villa Park respectively. But it will be competitive and the presence of Laudrup, who reported fit yesterday after missing training on Monday, adds class.

"They got success in the European championships, by playing with only one up front, although the Germans helped them by playing from the back," Charlton said. "We won't do that, but there are one or two things in their game which I can't budget for, because they are very capable of changing the way they play."

Northern Ireland face a more daunting task against Spain in Seville but, despite the recent heavy defeat by Ireland in Dublin, Billy Bingham, the Northern Ireland manager, remains optimistic.

"I hope the game against the Republic is now out of our system," Bingham said. "The mood is confident because we know a good result would put us back in contention."

Mal Donaghy is the only survivor from the side which registered Northern Ireland's solitary victory over tonight's opponents in the final stages of the 1982 World Cup.

The evergreen Chelsea veteran, who was sent off that night in Valencia, concedes that defeat this evening will render academic his country's remaining five qualifying fixtures. "If we are to maintain any interest in our group, we must get at least a draw," he said. "The door is slightly ajar for us, but that's all."

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: P Bonner (Celtic); D Irwin (Manchester United), P McGrath (Aston Villa), A Kernaghan (Middlesbrough), E McGoldrick (Crystal Palace), R Houghton (Aston Villa), R Keane (Nottingham Forest), A Townsend (Chelsea), S Staunton (Aston Villa), J Aldridge (Tranmere Rovers), N Quinn (Manchester City).
NORTHERN IRELAND (probable): A Wright (Newcastle United), G Fleming (Barnsley), A McDonald (Queens Park Rangers), G Taggart (Barnsley), M Donaghy (Chelsea), N Worthington (Sheffield Wednesday), K Wilson (Notts County), K Black (Nottingham Forest), M Hughes (Strasbourg), I Dowie (Southampton), P Gray (Luton Town).

GROUP THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	7	3	3	1	13	1	9
Denmark	6	3	3	0	4	0	9
Rep of Ireland	5	3	2	0	9	0	8
Lithuania	7	2	3	2	8	11	7
N Ireland	6	2	2	2	7	7	6
Latvia	8	0	4	4	3	17	4
Albania	7	1	1	5	4	14	3

RESULTS: Spain 3, Albania 0; N Ireland 2, Lithuania 2; Rep of Ireland 2, Albania 0; Albania 1, Lithuania 0; Latvia 1, Lithuania 2; Latvia 0, Denmark 0; Rep of Ireland 4, Latvia 0; N Ireland 3, Albania 0; Latvia 0, Spain 0; Lithuania 0, Denmark 0; N Ireland 0, Spain 0; Denmark 0, Rep of Ireland 0; Lithuania 1, Latvia 1; Albania 1, Latvia 1; Spain 0, Rep of Ireland 0; N Ireland 0, Denmark 1; Spain 5, Latvia 0; Albania 1, N Ireland 2; Spain 5, Lithuania 0; Rep of Ireland 3, N Ireland 0; Denmark 1, Spain 0; Denmark 2, Latvia 0; Lithuania 5, Albania 1.
FIXTURES: Today: Spain v N Ireland; Rep of Ireland v Denmark. May 15: Latvia v Albania. May 25: Lithuania v N Ireland. May 26: Albania v Rep of Ireland. Jun 2: Latvia v N Ireland; Denmark v Albania; Lithuania v Spain. Jun 9: Latvia v Rep of Ireland. Jun 16: Lithuania v Rep of Ireland. Aug 25: Denmark v Lithuania. Sep 8: Albania v Denmark; N Ireland v Latvia; Rep of Ireland v Lithuania. Sep 22: Albania v Spain. Oct 13: Rep of Ireland v Spain; Denmark v N Ireland. Nov 17: N Ireland v Rep of Ireland, Spain v Denmark.

Unhappy home camp gives renewed hope to Wales

From Keith Pike in Ostrava

WALES can approach their vital match here today with a renewed sense of optimism, despite the loss of four players because of injury and suspension and their dismal record in Czechoslovakia.

Politically, the separation of the country into the Czech and Slovakian republics has gone smoothly. But an apparent split in the Representation of Czechs and Slovaks (RCS) team is one that Terry Yorath, the Wales manager, believes his side can exploit.

Yorath, who saw the RCS struggle to draw in Cyprus last month, said: "Once things started to go against them, they fell to pieces. From our point of view, it was highly encouraging."

Yorath's problems were compounded yesterday when Gary Speed, the versatile Leeds United player, was ruled out because of a thigh strain. Already deprived of three central defenders — Young and Aizlewood are suspended, Ratcliffe injured — Yorath is forced to pair the inexperienced Melville and Symons at centre back.

He may also have to gamble on the fitness of Blackmore at sweeper. The Manchester United defender has played only three reserve games since a hernia operation, but is likely to be preferred to either Phillips or Bowen, of Norwich City. Pembridge is Speed's probable deputy.

Yet Yorath's difficulties are less pronounced than those faced by Vaclav Jezek. Recalled as national coach at 69, when Milan Macala resigned after the poor performance in Limassol, he has admitted that anything other than victory today will all but end the RCS's hopes of reaching the finals in the United States.

Jezek, who led Czechoslovakia to win the 1976 European championship, has been unable to quell murmurings of discontent in the RCS camp. The team has won only once in 11 games and the selection of only four Slovak players in his 16-strong squad has led to accusations of bias.

Like Wales, their prospects have not been helped by suspensions, which rule out Suchoparek, the defender, and Skuhravy and Moravcik, their principal forwards. Skuhravy's absence may be particularly important. The tall and powerful Genoa striker scored five goals to help Czechoslovakia into the quarter-finals of the 1990 World Cup.

Today's game was originally scheduled for Prague, where Wales have lost five out of five without scoring a goal, but was switched to the Bazaly Stadium here in the hope of attracting a more partisan crowd.

Conditions, though, should not worry Wales. Ostrava, with its iron and steelworks, bears a resemblance to Port Talbot and the recent heavy snow has been replaced by almost Mediterranean sunshine. Suddenly, Wales's task looks less formidable.

WALES (probable). N Southall (Everton), B Horne (Everton), P Bodin (Swindon Town), K Symons (Portsmouth), A Melville (Oxford United), C Blackmore (Manchester United), R Giggs (Manchester United), M Pembridge (Derby County), M Hughes (Manchester United), I Rush (Liverpool), D Saunders (Aston Villa)

GROUP FOUR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	7	6	0	1	12	3	12
Romania	6	4	1	1	19	5	9
Wales	5	3	0	2	10	7	6
Cyprus	8	2	1	5	8	13	5
RCS	4	1	2	1	7	4	4
Faeroes	6	0	0	6	1	25	0

RESULTS: Belgium 1, Cyprus 0; Romania 7, Faeroe Islands 0; Romania 5, Wales 1; Faeroe Islands 0, Belgium 3; Faeroe Islands 0, Cyprus 2; Representation of Czechs and Slovaks 1, Belgium 2; Wales 6, Faeroe Islands 0; RCS 4, Faeroe Islands 0; Cyprus 0, Wales 1; Belgium 1, Romania 0; Romania 1, RCS 1; Belgium 2, Wales 0; Cyprus 1, Romania 4; Cyprus 0, Belgium 3; Cyprus 1, RCS 1, Wales 2, Belgium 0; Romania 2, Cyprus 1. Cyprus 3, Faeroe Islands 1
FIXTURES: Today: RCS v Wales. May 22: Belgium v Faeroe Islands. Jun 2: RCS v Romania. Jun 6: Faeroe Islands v Wales. Jun 16: Faeroe Islands v RCS. Sept 8: Faeroe Islands v Romania. Oct 13: Romania v Belgium, Wales v Cyprus. Oct 27: RCS v Cyprus. Nov 17: Wales v Romania, Belgium v RCS

SPORT IN BRIEF

Tired Foster faces grand prix test

MARK Foster faces his arch-rival, Mike Fibbens, for the first time since the Olympic Games last August at the Speedo grand prix swimming final in Cardiff this weekend (Craig Lord writes). Much has changed in the nine months since Foster finished sixth in the 50 metres freestyle in Barcelona and Fibbens, who was more highly rated, failed to make the 50 or 100 metres finals.

Fibbens consoled himself in Australia, where he has trained for the past seven months, while Foster took to the World Cup circuit in February. In breaking the world short-course record at 50 metres freestyle, he emerged as the fastest man in water. However, a new training regime may have taken its toll. "I'm very sore from the work," Foster said. "I usually do 4,000 metres a day, today I did 10,000 metres, so I'm not looking for anything special in Cardiff."

Hodkinson on verge

BOXING: Paul Hodkinson, Britain's most exciting boxer, has the toughest bout of his career tonight in Dublin when the World Boxing Council featherweight champion from Liverpool meets Gregorio Vargas, of Mexico (Srikumar Sen writes). If Hodkinson wins, he could be acclaimed as one of Britain's great world champions, alongside Barry McGuigan, Howard Winstone and Ken Buchanan. Vargas, the Mexican champion, has defended his title successfully seven times and been made the mandatory challenger, although he is No 2 behind the American, Kevin Kelley. Billy Hardy will make the first defence of his Commonwealth featherweight title against Barrington Francis, of Canada, in his home town of Sunderland on May 19.

Belfry bonus for fans

GOLF: More money has been spent on improving spectator facilities for the Ryder Cup at The Belfry in September than on the original building of the course. About 4,000 lorry-loads of earth have been moved to make it easier to see the action from September 24 to 26. The total outlay on and off the Brabazon course since the last Ryder Cup match amounts to £2.5 million. A crowd limit of 27,500 has been put on each of the three days, with more than £2 million expected from ticket sales.

Olympic flotation

ROWING: Steve Redgrave yesterday received a £200,000 sponsorship that will save his career in rowing and help towards his preparations for the 1996 Olympic Games, at which he hopes to win a fourth successive gold medal. The backing, from Manulife Financial, the financial services company, will be shared with Matthew Pinsent, with whom Redgrave won the coxless pairs gold medal in Barcelona last year, a title they will defend in Atlanta. Redgrave is also doing promotional work for the Port of London Authority.

Full-strength Leicester

RUGBY UNION: Leicester will field their strongest side in the Pilkington Cup final against Harlequins on Saturday. The team that beat Northampton so convincingly in the semi-final will represent the club in its seventh Twickenham appearance. Matt Poole, the lock who toured Argentina with England three years ago, has recovered from a knee injury, and although Aadel Kardooni, the scrum half, has a grumbling appendix, he will play in his second final. Harlequins will confirm their team this evening.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

World Cup
Group one
Portugal v Scotland (in Lisbon, 8.30)
Group two
England v Holland (at Wembley, all ticket, 8.0)
Group three
Ireland v Denmark (at Lansdowne Road, 2.45)
Spain v Northern Ireland (in Seville, 8.30)
Group four
Rep of Czech and Slovaks v Wales (in Ostrava, 5.0)

Barclays League
Second division
Stoke v Plymouth (7.45)
GM Vauxhall Conference
Boston v Altrincham

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Group one: Switzerland v Italy (in Neuchatel, 7.15). Group six: France v Sweden (in Rheims, 2.0).
DIADORA LEAGUE (7.45). Premier division: Chesham v Bromley. Third division: Collier Row v Tring.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland division: Barri v Stourbridge; Forest Green v Bilston; Hinckley v Gresley. Southern division (7.45): Canterbury v Havant; Salisbury v Ashford.
HFS LOANS LEAGUE: First division: Knowsley v Curzon Ashton.
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Brigg v Pickering; Denaby v Maltby MW, Eccleshill v Ashfield.
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Ipswich v Mildenhall.
GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Clevedon v Saltash; Bideford v Taunton; Torrington v Plymouth Argyle.
NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Chelsea v Southampton (7.0). Ipswich v Bristol City; Tottenham v Swindon (2.00). Wimbledon v Norwich. Second division: Cheltenham v Bristol Rovers; Torquay v Bournemouth.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division (7.0) Aston Villa v Sunderland. Leeds United v Blackburn Rovers. Manchester United v Barnsley; Newcastle United v Sheffield United; Nottingham Forest v Manchester City; Sheffield Wednesday v Bolton Wanderers; Wolverhampton Wanderers v Notts County. Second division: Blackpool v Grimsby Town (7.0), Bradford v Hull City (7.0); Huddersfield Town v Everton. Middlesbrough v Oldham Athletic (7.0); Scunthorpe v Burnley (7.0); West Brom v York (7.0).
SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Charlton v Norwich.
WELSH SCHOOLS SHIELD. Final: Aberconwy v Kirkby Knowsley (Rhyl FC, 7pm).

RUGBY UNION

Heineken League
First division
Llanelli v Pontypridd (7.15)
SYBASE LONDON FLOODLIT SEVENS (at Rosslyn Park, 5.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter premiership
Second round replay
Dewsbury v Oldham (6.0)

CRICKET

Benson and Hedges Cup
Preliminary round
HARTLEPOOL: Durham v Minor Counties (11.0, 55 overs)
RAPID CRICKETLINE SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Derby: Derbyshire v Hampshire, Manchester: Lancashire v Surrey; Uxbridge: Middlesex v Gloucestershire; Hove: Sussex v Durham: Coventry and North Warwicks: Warwickshire v Nottinghamshire, Worcester: Worcester v Leicestershire.

OTHER SPORT

BOXING: World Boxing Council featherweight championship: Paul Hodkinson (Liverpool, holder) v Goyo Vargas (Mex) (National Stadium, Dublin)
SNOOKER: Embassy world championship (Sheffield).
SPEEDWAY (7.30) First division: Poole v Eastbourne; Wolverhampton v Coventry. Second division: Long Eaton v Middlesbrough
TENNIS: LTA spring satellite tournament (Lee-on-Solent).

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 40

CAUCHO
(b) Any of several varieties of rubber produced in the Amazon basin and Central America, especially from species of *Castilloa*. South American Spanish adapted from the Quechua *cauchuc*, the base of *caout-chouc*: "The tree which produces the quality of india-rubber exported from Peru through Para under the name of caucho has recently been determined by M. Huber. The total shipments of caucho from Amazonian ports amount to about 2,000 tons annually."

THAKALI
(b) A member of one of the tribes or castes of Nepal, of Mongol origin: also the language or dialect spoken by this tribe: the native name: "Prosperous businessmen are attempting to obtain for the Thakali people a high rank in the Hindu caste system."

RATHITE
(a) Any of a group of sulpharsenites of lead found in the Binnental in southern Switzerland, eponym from G. von Rath (1830-88) German mineralogist: "Characteristic of rathite, but not invariably present, are parallel systems of very fine striae on the crystal faces and on the fractured faces."

LUAU
(b) A party or feast with Hawaiian food and usually accompanied by Hawaiian entertainment, adapted from the Hawaiian *lu'au*: "It was on a Saturday afternoon in the year 1852 that a merry party of us started forth to attend a luau or native feast, given by a chief who lived some miles from Honolulu."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

White forced the win of the exchange (rook for minor piece) with 1 Ne6! Note that a trap to avoid is 1 Ngf7 Bxf7 2 Nxf7 Qc5! 3 Nxh8 Rxc4+ winning the white queen.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Group four: Representation of Czechs and Slovaks 1, Wales 1 (in Frydek-Mistek)
NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: West Ham 3, Fulham 0

Late results on Monday
GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Stalybridge 1, Witton 2.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chelmsford 2, Moor Green 0. Midland division: Barri 1, Gresley 2.
NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Crystal Palace 1, Chelsea 1, Millwall 4, Brighton 2, Oxford 2, Bristol City 0. Cup: Final: Torquay 2, Swansea 0
HFS LOANS LEAGUE: First division cup: Final, second leg: Emley 2, Gresley 3 (agg 3-4).
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn 0, Barnsley 0; Leicester 2, Liverpool 2. Sheffield Wednesday 0, Notts County 0. Second division: Derby 5, Preston 0; Mansfield 2, Wigan 3. West Bromwich 0, Bradford City 4.
DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Bognor Regis 4, Grays 1. First division: Purfleet 3, Molesey 2.
GERMAN LEAGUE: Werder Bremen 4, Bayern Munich 1.

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Cincinnati Reds 3, Florida Marlins 0; Philadelphia Phillies 9, San Francisco Giants 8: Pittsburgh Pirates 4, Atlanta Braves 3: St Louis Cardinals 3, Houston Astros 2. Chicago Cubs 6, Colorado Rockies 3: Montreal Expos 6, San Diego Padres 4.
AMERICAN LEAGUE: Milwaukee Brewers 10, Minnesota Twins 3, Toronto Blue Jays 6, Texas Rangers 6, Chicago White Sox 7, Baltimore Orioles 0, Detroit Tigers 5, Kansas City Royals 3, Seattle Mariners 6 Cleveland Indians 3

BOXING

LOS ANGELES: WBA junior lightweight championship: Genaro Hernandez (US, holder) bt Raul Perez (Mex), rsc 1st rnd
AGUASCALIENTES, Mexico: WBC lightweight championship: Miguel Angel Gonzalez (Mex, holder) bt Hector Lopez (Mex), pts

CYCLING

TOUR OF SPAIN: Second stage (La Coruna to Vigo, 215km) 1, A Gutierrez (Sp), 5hr 20min 47sec; 2, J van Poppel (Holl), 3, D Abdoujaparov (Uzbekistan), 4, L Lom (Cz); 5, S Sunderland (Aus), all same time. Overall: 1, A Zuelle (Switz), 5hr 32min 42sec; 2, E Breukink (Holl), 30sec behind: 3, T Rominger (Switz), same time, 4, L Jalabert (Fr), 31; 5, M Alonso (Sp) 32

ICE HOCKEY

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS: Group A: Italy 1, Austria 1. Group B: Norway 5, France 4. Quarter-finals: Sweden 5, United States 2. NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Play-offs: First round: Pittsburgh Penguins 5, New Jersey Devils 3 (Pittsburgh win best-of-seven series 4-1); Montreal Canadiens 5, Quebec Nordiques 4 (Montreal lead 3-2). Washington Capitals 6, New York Islanders 4 (New York lead 3-2)

REAL TENNIS

BORDEAUX: Coupe de Bordeaux: Semi-finals: J Snow (GB) bt R Dery (Aus), 6-0, 6-1, 6-1. J-G Prats (Fr) bt J Waddell (Aus), 6-1, 0-6, 6-0. Final: Snow bt Prats, 6-0, 6-3, 6-0

RUGBY UNION

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Second division: Ebbw Vale 0, Dunvant 12.
TOUR MATCH: Australian Capital Territory 22, Northern Transvaal 15 (in Canberra)

SPEEDWAY

BRITISH LEAGUE: First division: Reading 57, Wolverhampton 51. Second division: Exeter 60, Sheffield 47

SHOOTING

TWICKENHAM: British universities smallbore championships. Individual (25, 50 and 100 yds) 1, G Barnett (London), 591. 2, S Clark (Edinburgh), 588. 3, K Macmahon (Aberdeen), 587. Women's individual: 1, D Russell (Bath), 583; 2, V Anton (London), 582. 3, S Macdonald (Aberdeen), 581. Teams of eight (25 yds) 1, London, 1,558. 2, Edinburgh, 1,557. 3, Glasgow, 1,533. Quartets (50 and 100 yds). 1, Aberdeen, 1,553. 2, London, 1,544; 3, Cambridge, 1,536. Women's triad (25 yds): equal 1, Edinburgh, London, 581. 3, Glasgow, 558.
BISLEY: Kent spring meeting: Queen's II: 1, R Garside, 149.21. 2, P Griggs, 148 19; 3, R Baker, 147.20 15 at 600 yds: 1, Garside, 74 12; 2, A Hunter, 74 11: 3, Baker, 74.11 (countback). Dorking RC Open: Grand aggregate: 1, D Dashwood (Old Harrovians), 436.52; 2, J G Bennett (Kidderminster), 431 43, 3, E Stuart-Bamford (Surrey), 428 46.
BLOEMFONTEIN: South African rifle championships: Municipal trophy (700 yards) 1, J Moolman (SA), 50 10. British scores: C Hockley (RAF), R Clark (RAF), 50.9. Aggregate (300 to 800 yards). 1, G Willemse (SA), 204.23. Best British score: S Penrose (Essex), 203.24.

SQUASH

NEW YORK: Tournament of Champions: Second round (GB unless stated): Jansher Khan (Pak) bt D Meddings, 15-5, 15-10, 15-12, P Marshall bt A Davids, 15-6, 15-2, 15-6; R Eyles (Aus) bt J Power (Can), 15-11, 15-8, 15-6; B Martin (Aus) bt J Nicolle, 15-4, 15-9, 7-15, 15-8, P Johnson bt P Nicol, 17-16, 15-6, 15-4, C Dittmar (Aus) bt M Canyon (Aus), 17-15, 15-11, 15-7. R Martin (Aus) bt M Cairns, 15-13, 15-4, 15-12; Mir Zaman Gul (Pak) bt Zubair Jahan Khan (Pak), 13-15, 15-12, 15-11, 15-7
MADRID: Spanish women's open: Quarter-finals: F Geaves (England) bt T Weeks (Aus), 15-9, 13-15, 15-10, 15-9; J Martin (Eng) bt L Charman (Eng), 15-12, 15-9, 15-7, 5 Macfie (Eng) bt R Cooper (Aus), 15-17, 15-13, 15-14, 14-15; 15-13, R O'Callaghan (Ire) bt E Donaldson (Scot), 15-11, 9-15, 15-13, 15-3. Semi-finals: Martin bt Geaves, 17-14, 15-3, 11-15, 15-10, 17-16; O'Callaghan bt Macfie, 15-10, 6-15, 15-10, 15-6. Final: Martin bt O'Callaghan, 15-12, 15-7, 15-9

TENNIS

MUNICH: Men's tournament: First round: A Boetsch (Fr) bt J Renzenbrink (Ger), 6-2, 6-0, M Goellner (Ger) bt S Eriksson (Swe), 7-5, 6-1, I Lendl (US) bt T Zdrazila (Cz), 6-2, 6-3, G Solves (Fr) bt H Holm (Swe), 6-2, 6-1, A Cherkasov (Russ) bt K Carlsen (Den), 7-6, 7-6, J-F Altur (Sp) bt D Dier (Ger), 6-3, 7-6; K Kucera (Slo) bt L Jonsson (Swe), 6-2, 6-4; K Novacek (Cz) bt C Bergstrom (Swe), 6-4, 6-4
MADRID: Men's tournament: First round: A Corretja (Sp) bt J Arrese (Sp), 6-4, 6-1: A Jarryd (Swe) bt F Roig (Sp), 6-1, 6-1. M Filippini (Uru) bt R Furlan (It), 6-2, 6-3. J Burillo (Sp) bt L Mattar (Br), 6-4, 6-2. E Sánchez (Sp) bt O Delaitre (Fr), 6-1, 6-1: F Davin (Arg) bt B Becker (Ger), 6-2, 6-2: F Clavet (Sp) bt J Hlasek (Switz), 6-0, 3-6, 6-4; A Chesnokov (Russ) bt F Montana (US), 6-2, 6-2; J Svensson (Swe) bt R Gilbert (Fr), 6-0, 6-1, A Olhovsky (Russ) bt G Raoux (Fr), 2-6, 7-5, 7-5; S Edberg (Swe) bt J Conde (Sp), 6-0, 6-3
ATLANTA, Georgia: Men's tournament: First round (US unless stated) R Agenor (Haiti) bt T Martin, 7-6, 7-5; J Tarango bt A Krickstein, 2-6, 6-1, 6-3: J Yzaga (Peru) bt R Weiss, 5-7, ret; R Azar (Arg) bt D Rostagno, 6-3, 6-7, 6-2, H Skoff (Austria) bt G Schaller (Austria), 7-5, 6-1; R Fromberg (Aus) bt C Dosedel (Cz), 6-2, 7-5; A Berasategui (Sp) bt D Perez (Uru), 6-2, 7-5; A Gomez (Ecu) bt J Arias, 6-3, 6-3

GOLF

US RYDER CUP POINTS: 1, F Couples, 915.50; 2, T Kite, 890.00, 3, P Azinger, 687.167. 4, J Cook, 672 50; 5, D Love III, 635.00: 6, M O'Meara, 506.25; 7, L Janzen, 468 81; 8, C Beck, 454 167, 9, R Mediate, 428 929; 10, J Gallagher, 417 50, 11, K Clearwater, 404 166; 12, C Pavin, 392 50, 13, P Stewart, 388 393; 14, D Forsman, 382 583; 15, T Lehman, 373.286; 16, J Sluman, 370.833 (top ten qualify plus two wild cards)

YACHTING

BRITISH STEEL CHALLENGE: Leading positions (at 14.00 GMT yesterday, with miles to Southampton): 1, Commercial Union (R Merriweather), 3,924. 2, British Steel II (R Tudor), 3,927; 3, Group 4 Securitas (M Golding), 3,954: 4, Rhone-Poulenc (P Phillips), 3,967, 5, Nuclear Electric (J Chittenden), 3,968, 6, Heath Insured (A Donovan), 3,971: 7, Interspray (P Jeffes), 3,983; 8, Hofbrau Lager (P Goss), 3,989, 9, Pride of Teesside (I MacGillivray), 3,998, 10, Coopers & Lybrand (V Cherry), 4,001

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هكذا من الأصل

Kinane forced to miss 2,000 Guineas

By Julian Muscat

RICHARD Hannon woke yesterday to discover that Michael Kinane would not, after all, be riding one of the stable's two colts in Saturday's 2,000 Guineas. Kinane had been deliberating over the respective chances of Revelation and Right Win when the obligations of his retainer were spelt out to him.

While the Irish champion does duty at Leopardstown, fellow countryman Warren O'Connor will cross the Irish Sea for the ride on Revelation. Richard Quinn takes the reins aboard Right Win, with Hannon admitting yesterday he had no idea which of the two would prove superior in the first colts' classic. Ladbrokes too, cannot split them, quoting both at 20-1.

O'Connor will be familiar to racegoers through his association with Kooyonga. The jockey rode some well-judged races on Kooyonga, notably in the Eclipse and Coronation Stakes, but his careless riding cost the partnership the Prince of Wales's Stakes at Royal Ascot last June.

Hannon, as ever, is unperturbed by the late developments. He said: "Revelation's owner, John Davis, sorted out the riding plans. The jockey has ridden for him before and I'm sure he'll be fine." Any rain would help the cause of both colts: the Newmarket track drains particularly quickly and the ground could well be on the fast side of good by the weekend.

Kinane remains Lyric Fantasy's partner for tomorrow's 1,000 Guineas but Hannon, two-handed in both classics, prefers the chances of Niche. "She has won the Nell Gwyn and I've no doubt she'll stay the mile," he said, "and we have Lester on our side."

A victory for Niche at Lyric Fantasy's expense would surely bring a smile of contentment to the face of Lord Carnarvon. He sold Lyric Fantasy for 340,000 guineas in December and kept for himself the largely unheralded Niche, an 8-1 shot. Lyric Fantasy is quoted at twice those odds.

One of Niche's Nell Gwyn victims, Zarani Sidi Anna, has delighted Michael Stoute in her preparation. The Danzig filly has 5lb and one-and-a-half lengths to find on Niche, but that represented only her second lifetime start.

The trainer said: "She got a little far behind that day and the pace was slow. Also, she didn't concentrate that well when asked for her effort. I'm hoping she will have learned from that educational ride." Zarani Sidi Anna has been the best backed filly this week, dropping to 6-1 from the 8-1 available with Ladbrokes on Monday.

Stoute confirmed she had been progressing on the gallops. "Her preparation has gone very well and I couldn't be more pleased with her," he said. "Mind you, we have an awful lot to do to cope with Niche and Sayyedati [third in the Nell Gwyn] on level terms."

Stoute knows what it takes to win the fillies' classic, having annexed the 1989 version with Musical Bliss after countless near misses. He rates the 9-4 favourite, Elizabeth Bay, the biggest threat to him adding to those laurels. He is without a runner in the 2,000 Guineas, a race he has won twice, with Doyoun and Shadeed, but through his impartial eyes Barathea is the one he would most like to saddle.

"If they get Zafonic to settle, he'll win, but I think he's vulnerable," Stoute said. "He may not switch off on the Rowley Mile, which is such a wide open space. Wharf, Emperor Jones and Barathea — any one of these three looks sure to run well, and if pressed I'd go for Luca Cumani's horse."

The three-day Newmarket fixture has been blessed with the intended participation of a multitude of potential stars. Tenby, the Derby favourite, will clash with Shaiba in Friday's Newmarket Stakes, while Fayfa sets out on the Oaks trail in the Pretty Polly Stakes.

Saturday sees the reappearance of Commander In Chief, now as low as 10-1 for the Derby. His owner, Khaled Abdulla, can also look forward to a two-pronged attack on the 2,000 Guineas with Wharf and Zafonic, the hot favourite. A 5-4 on shot, Zafonic is trained by Elizabeth Bay's handler Andre Fabre, who has won five of the last six group races run in France. The Fabre stable could hardly be in better form on the eve of one of the most exciting and informative weeks in the racing calendar.

IAN STEWART



Front runner: Niche held Zarani Sidi Anna in the Nell Gwyn Stakes but has a furlong further to cover tomorrow

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: EURO FESTIVAL
(3.40 Ascot)
Next best: Zind
(3.05 Ascot)

Dunwoody in peak form at Punchestown

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

RICHARD Dunwoody stole the show at the opening session of the Punchestown national hunt festival winning three of the four races on the programme open to professional riders.

Partnering the David Nicholson-trained Viking Flagship in the feature race, the BMW Handicap chase, he gave some anxious moments to those who had made him 5-4 favourite. In particular Viking Flagship lived dangerously when losing concentration at the fourth last fence, but he survived and rallied well from two out to beat the Irish-trained Foulksrath Castle by two and a half lengths.

Charlie Swan got no ride at all on Martin Pipe's top weight Cyphrate and was well out of contention when pulled up.

Earlier Dunwoody gave Bayrouge a finely-timed ride to win the IR£30,000 Country Pride Champion Novices' Hurdle. This was the ninth win for Bayrouge over hurdles since October and she has proved herself a wonderfully consistent mare including in her record a defeat of subsequent Cheltenham winner Montelado.

There was little stable fancy for Bayrouge yesterday but Nicky Henderson's confidence in his Newmarket Flat handicap winner Thinking Twice was well rewarded as the 5-2 favourite was pushed out by Dunwoody to win the Berkley Court Hotel Handicap Hurdle by a length from Final Favour.

At Punchestown today Dunwoody could keep up the good work on David Nicholson's Kim Muir Challenge Cup winner Strong Beau in the IR£50,000 Heineken Gold Cup.

Kerry Orchid, narrowly beaten in the Foxhunters at Cheltenham by Double Silk, looks a banker in the Sean Macklin Champion Hunters' Cup, while Duharra, who fell in the County Hurdle at Cheltenham, reappears in the IR£30,000 Woodchester Credit Lyonnais Downshire Handicap Hurdle with a very inviting light weight.

The vexed question of Richard Dunwoody's plans for next season was ventilated in the aftermath of Viking Flagship's success. Both trainer David Nicholson and Richard Dunwoody were interviewed on Irish television.

Nicholson emphasised what a good relationship the pair had. "I certainly hope that it does not come about that Richard leaves me for Martin Pipe, but if that is the outcome I will wish him all the best."

ASCOT

THUNDERER

2.00 Polka Dancer. 2.30 Assessor. 3.05 Zind. 3.40 Highland Magic. 4.10 Wajiba Riva. 4.40 **LOBILIO (nap).**

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Polka Dancer. 3.40 Tender Moment. 4.40 **LOBILIO** (nap).

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.40 **BLACKPATCH HILL.**

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.00 INSULPAK CONDITIONS STAKES
(3-Y-O fillies: £8,616: 1m rnd) (9 runners)

101 (4) 1104-0 KATIBA 18 (B,F,S) (H Al-Maktoum) J Dunlop 8-13 W Carson 98
102 (8) 3304-10 SEHAILAH 15 (F) (A Al Jaffeh) Mrs L Piggott 8-13 L Piggott 80
103 (9) 3040-0 BALLON 18 (C Brittain) C Brittain 8-11 M Roberts 69
104 (1) 4212- BRIGHT SPELLS 186 (G) (C Harper) D Elsworth 8-11 J Williams [99]
105 (2) 1-6 FABRIANA 18 (S) (Mrs P Payne) T Naughton 8-11 D Holland 89
106 (6) 1- LACERTA 348 (G) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-11 J Reid 74
107 (7) 1- NA-AYIM 309 (F) (H Al-Maktoum) A Scott 8-11 R Hills 84
108 (5) POLKA DANCER (S Richmond-Watson) J Fanshawe 8-11 W R Swinburn —
109 (3) 3221-4 ZENITH 18 (D,F) (The Queen) I Balding 8-11 L Dettori 92

BETTING: 5-2 Bright Spells, 7-2 Katiba, 5-1 Zenith, 6-1 Na-Ayim, 8-1 Fabriana, 10-1 Lacerta, 12-1 others.

1992: ARBUSHA 8-11 A Munro (9-2) Lord Huntingdon 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

SEHAILAH beat Hazy Kay 2l in 10-runner Leicester (7f, firm) maiden. BRIGHT SPELLS 5l 2nd of 8 to Criquette in Newbury (7f 110yd, soft) listed race. LACERTA beat Love In The Mist head in 9-runner Newbury (6f, good) maiden.

NA-AYIM beat White Shadow short-head in Newbury (6f, good to firm) maiden. ZENITH 9¾l 4th of 12 to Nicer in Kempton (1m, soft) stakes race with FABRIANA 5¾l 6th and KATIBA 10l 9th.
Selection: LACERTA

2.30 INSULPAK SAGARO EBF STAKES (BBC1)
(Group III: £26,892: 2m 45yd) (6 runners)

201 (4) 3040- JUSTICE 185 (G) (A Richards) C Brittain 5-9-4 L Dettori 74
202 (5) 03631-4 ASSESSOR 11 (C,G,S) (B Nielsen) R Hannon 4-9-0 T Quinn [99]
203 (1) 02/0300- ROLL A DOLLAR 27J (F,G) (N Higson) D Elsworth 7-8-12 B Rouse 70
204 (6) 11330-1 SPINNING 9 (C,D,F,G) (P Mellon) I Balding 6-8-12 R Cochrane 96
205 (2) 11112-1 DARU 21 (V,F,G,S) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 4-8-8 M Roberts 91
206 (3) 34052-3 NOT IN DOUBT 13 (F) (Mrs D Blackburn) H Candy 4-8-8 W Newnes 79

BETTING: 2-1 Assessor, 9-4 Daru, 11-4 Spinning, 8-1 Justice, 14-1 Not In Doubt, 20-1 Roll A Dollar

1992: AL MUTAHM 4-8-8 L Dettori (33-1) J Old 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

ASSESSOR 5¾l 4th of 7 to Linpac West in group III John Porter Stakes at Newbury (1m 4f, good). Beat Always Friendly 2½l in 12-runner group I Prix Royal Oak at Longchamp (1m 7f 110yd, soft) with JUSTICE tailed off 11th.
ROLL A DOLLAR head and short-head 3rd of 15 to Daisy Girl in Kempton (1m 4f, good) handicap in Sept. Won over hurdles at Aintree (2m 110yd, good to firm) recently. SPINNING beat Dazzlehan 6l in 3-runner Brighton (1m 4f, good) stakes race.
DARU beat Murphys Way 2l in 5-runner Ripon (1m 4f 110yd, good) stakes race.
NOT IN DOUBT 4¾l 3rd of 7 to Dime Bag in Newmarket (1m 6f, good) handicap.
Selection: ASSESSOR (nap)

3.05 WHITE ROSE CONDITIONS STAKES (BBC1)
(3-Y-O: £9,399: 1m 2f) (5 runners)

301 (4) 411250- KING PARIS 214 (F,G) (Mrs P Karpidas) M Bell 9-0 M Hills 95
302 (2) 21214-4 TIOMAN ISLAND 13 (F) (Sultan Ahmad Shah) P Cole 8-12 T Quinn 91
303 (5) 125-6 PALACE PAGEANT 26 (G) (P Mellon) I Balding 8-10 R Cochrane 86
304 (3) 01- TOMOS 198 (S) (S Ali) D Morley 8-10 M Roberts 76
305 (1) 4203- ZIND 188 (F Nalla) P Chapple-Hyam 8-10 J Reid [99]

BETTING: 10-11 Zind, 7-2 Tioman Island, 9-2 King Paris, 7-1 Palace Pageant, 12-1 Tomos.

1992: TOP REGISTER 8-9 W R Swinburn (5-2) Lord Huntingdon 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

KING PARIS 1½l 2nd of 9 to White Crown in group III Solario Stakes at Sandown (7f, good to soft) in Aug with TIOMAN ISLAND (2lb better off) 4½l 4th. TIOMAN ISLAND 2½l 4th of 9 to Placerville in Newmarket (1m 1f, good) listed race. PALACE PAGEANT disappointing since 2l 2nd of 3 to Taos in Haydock (1m, good to soft) stakes race in Sept. TOMOS beat Blue Grotto short-head in 19-runner Redcar (1m, good to soft) maiden. ZIND 10l 3rd of 10 to Armiger in group I Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster (1m, good to soft).
Selection: ZIND

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
C A Cyzer	3	12	25.0	Pat Eddery	41	200	20.5
M Johnston	5	23	21.7	D Harrison	5	27	18.5
J Gosden	15	70	21.4	L Dettori	24	159	15.1
P Cole	12	68	17.6	A Munro	13	96	13.5
P Makin	3	20	15.0	W R Swinburn	18	138	13.0
G Harwood	18	121	14.9	W Carson	26	204	12.7

3.40 INSULPAK VICTORIA CUP (BBC1)
(Handicap: £20,387: 7f) (22 runners)

401 (2) 00000-6 MASTER PLANNER 26 (F,G) (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 4-9-10 D Biggs 92
402 (17) 30103-4 EURO FESTIVAL 14 (D,F,G) (C Price) Miss L Siddall 4-9-4 Pat Eddery 90
403 (21) 000450- KAYVEE 195 (D,F) (J Richmond-Watson) G Harwood 4-9-4 W R Swinburn 94
404 (3) 221300- NOBLE PET 214 (D,S) (A Schiff) P Makin 4-9-3 B Raymond 91
405 (9) 240-315 WILL OF STEEL 11 (BF,D,G,S) (K Wheldon) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-2 K Fallon 93
406 (14) 003-130 KNOCK TO ENTER 11 (D,F) (R Payne) M Williams 5-9-2 J Williams 93
407 (10) 41052-5 ECHO-LOGICAL 18 (BF,F,G) (P Savill) R Hannon 4-9-0 K Darley 94
408 (5) 1120-00 EFHARISTO 11 (B,BF,C,D,F,G) (Lady Beaverbrook) C Brittain 4-9-0 M Roberts 90
409 (19) 00140-2 RISK MASTER 11 (D,G) (Mrs B Sumner) C Horgan 4-8-12 R Hills 98
410 (15) 1100-21 SHIKARI'S SON 9 (D,F,G) (A Spargo) J White 6-8-7 (6ex) R Cochrane [99]
411 (13) 1110-01 MILLSOLIN 9 (D,G,S) (Normandy Developments) R Akehurst 5-8-7 (6ex) T Quinn 90
412 (22) 21240-0 CONFRONTER 11 (D,S) (S Dow) S Dow 4-8-3 C Rutter 94
413 (20) 300-333 ASSIGNMENT 18 (BF,D,F,G) (A Gorrie) J Ffitch-Heyes 7-8-2 T Williams 94
414 (12) 54000-0 TROOPING 18 (F) (N Grandfield) G Harwood 4-8-2 W Carson 95
415 (11) 01051-0 HIGHLAND MAGIC 11 (D,G) (Miss N Carroll) M Fetherston-Godley 5-8-1 D Holland 94
416 (8) 40066-0 SUPEROO 18 (D,F,G) (Mrs P Garner) J Sutcliffe 7-8-0 D Harrison (3) 93
417 (4) 1100-50 LAUREL QUEEN 22 (D,F,G,S) (Laurel Leisure) J Berry 5-7-9 L Charnock 95
418 (1) 1112-06 HOB GREEN 11 (D,F) (Mrs A Sigsworth) Mrs J Ramsden 4-7-9 J Lowe 95
419 (7) 50-3324 PRECIOUS WONDER 9 (D,S) (M Murray) P Butler 4-7-9 N Adams 95
420 (18) 20000-1 TENDER MOMENT 18 (D,S) (R Richards) C Brittain 5-7-9 B Doyle (5) 95
421 (16) 12116-4 INDIAN SLAVE 33 (D,F) (R Axford) R Guest 5-7-7 J Quinn 96
422 (6) 35000-1 LITTLE ROUSILLON 26 (D,S) (Fayzad Th'bred Ltd) W Muir 5-7-7 J Penza 94

Long handicap: Little Rousillon 7-1.

BETTING: 10-1 Euro Festival, Will Of Steel, Risk Master, 11-1 Knock To Enter, 12-1 Echo-Logical, Efharisto, Millsolin, Hob Green, 14-1 Shikari's Son, Indian Slave, 16-1 Trooping, Tender Moment, 20-1 others.

1992: BAND ON THE RUN 5-9-0 T Quinn (16-1) B McMahon 21 ran

FORM FOCUS

WILL OF STEEL 1¼l 3rd of 24 to High Premium in Doncaster (1m, good to firm) handicap with LAUREL QUEEN (19lb better off) 5l 5th, EFHARISTO 13th and MILLSOLIN 22nd, then beat Little Bean 2l in 6-runner Newmarket (7f, good) handicap with EURO FESTIVAL (6lb better off) 2l 4th.
RISK MASTER 1½l 2nd to Tasisat in Newbury (1m, good) handicap with WILL OF STEEL (1lb better off) 3¼l 5th, KNOCK TO ENTER (4lb better off) ¾l 7th, EFHARISTO (5lb better off) 2¾l 9th. SHIKARI'S SON beat Hard To Figure 4l in 5-runner Brighton (7f, good) stakes race with PRECIOUS WONDER (10lb better off) 7l 4th. MILLSOLIN beat Tyrian Purple head in Brighton (7f, good) handicap. ASSIGNMENT 3l 3rd to Era in Kempton (6f, soft) handicap. TENDER MOMENT beat PRECIOUS WONDER (1lb better off) ½l in Kempton (7f, soft) handicap with SUPEROO (5lb better off) 7¼l 7th. INDIAN SLAVE 3l 4th to Cee-Jay-Ay in Doncaster (1m, good to firm) handicap.
LITTLE ROUSILLON beat Sagebrush Roller 2l in Kempton (7f, good to soft) handicap.
Selection: RISK MASTER

4.10 GARTER CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £6,396: 5f) (11 runners)

501 (6) 51 VALIANT MAN 18 (D,S) (J Rose) J Wharton 9-1 J Reid 88
502 (4) 1 WAJIBA RIVA 13 (D,G) (The Winning Team) R Hannon 9-1 Pat Eddery [99]
503 (2) ALPINE SKIER (P Savill) R Hannon 8-12 K Darley —
504 (10) 12 OCHOS RIOS 11 (D,F) (Mrs H Burn) B Rothwell 8-12 D Harrison 85
505 (9) RIVER DEEP (F Salman) P Cole 8-12 A Munro —
506 (11) STOMPIN (R Richards) C Brittain 8-12 M Roberts —
507 (7) 01 WINDOW DISPLAY 6 (D,S) (Sheet & Roll Convertors) M Channon 8-12 G Carter 92
508 (3) 1 MISS AMY LOU 25 (D,G) (B Allen) J Berry 8-10 J Carroll 91
509 (8) 0 CARLTON CROWN 32 (D Bass) K Cunningham-Brown 8-7 T Quinn —
510 (1) FRENCH GIFT (R Tooth) D Elsworth 8-7 J Williams —
511 (5) 41 THATCHERELLA 20 (D,G) (G Mortimer) J Akehurst 8-7 D Holland 91

BETTING: 5-4 Wajiba Riva, 7-2 Miss Amy Lou, 11-2 River Deep, 8-1 Ochos Rios, Stompin, 12-1 others.

1992: PIPS PRIDE 9-4 Pat Eddery (2-1) R Hannon 3 ran

FORM FOCUS

VALIANT MAN beat Make The Break 1¼l in Kempton (5f, soft) maiden. WAJIBA RIVA beat Montaya 2l in Newmarket (5f, good) maiden. RIVER DEEP (foaled Feb 26). By Riverman out of winning half-sister to Zoman. STOMPIN (Apr 24). By Alzao out of middle-distance winner Celebrity. WINDOW DISPLAY beat Little Emmeline neck in Folkestone (5f, good to soft) claimer. MISS AMY LOU beat Kerrie-Jo 1½l in 12-runner Lingfield (5f, good) maiden with WINDOW DISPLAY (3lb better off) 7½l 8th. FRENCH GIFT (May 7, cost 37,000gns). By Cadeaux Genereux out of top-class sprinter Soba. Half-sister to three winners.
Selection: WAJIBA RIVA

4.40 CHOBHAM APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£4,464: 1m 4f) (14 runners)

601 (7) 2021-23 LOBILIO 15 (B,G) (Lady Beaverbrook) C Brittain 4-9-10 B Doyle 97
602 (5) 461050- ACROBATE 185 (D,G) (R Tooth) D Elsworth 4-9-9 A Procter (3) 86
603 (12) 4/4550-0 DOM WAC 14 (F) (Vintage Racing) M Bell 5-9-5 M Fenton 94
604 (13) 043400- WESTERN DYNASTY 184 (D,F,G,S) (M Kentish) M Ryan 7-9-5 P McCabe (5) 94
605 (11) 541540- PROSEQUENDO 128J (D,G) (J Daniels) M Dixon 6-9-5 N Gwilliams 85
606 (6) 010-450 BUSMAN 4 (F) (R Dalton) W Muir 4-9-5 Kim McDonnell (3) 93
607 (2) 0/56-01 BLACKPATCH HILL 8 (D,G) (J Dunlop) J Dunlop 4-8-11 (4ex) Stephen Davies [99]
608 (14) 51415-2 FAIR FLYER 7 (D,F,G) (W Hunter) M Johnston 4 8-10 O Pears 96
609 (9) 342-012 BROUGHTON'S TANGO 8 (BF,D,G,S) M Heaton-Ellis 4-8-10 D McCabe (3) 97
610 (4) 044133- ALLMOSA 181 (D,G) (The Durdans Four (II) Two) T Naughton 4-8 1 D Gibbs (5) 91
611 (3) 640605 MON PETITNAMOUR 8 (S) (A Richards) K C-Brown 4 7-7 Darren Moffatt (3) —
612 (10) 34-0000 UP ALL NIGHT 8 (M Low) R Curtis 4-7-7 D Wright (3) 95
613 (8) 6-31402 KOVALEVSKIA 49J (D,F,G,S) (D Wilson) D Wilson 8-7-7 Sharon Millard (5) 94
614 (1) 0065/00 ROCKY ROMANCE 16 (Mrs S McGarvie) R Curtis 6-7-7 C Hawksley (3) —

Long handicap: Mon Petitnamour 7-4, Up All Night 7-2, Kovalevskia 6-12, Rocky Romance 6-10

BETTING: 7-4 Blackpatch Hill, 3-1 Fair Flyer, 5-1 Broughton's Tango, 13-2 Lobilio, 8-1 Dom Wac, 10-1 Prosequendo, 12-1 others.

1992: WHITECHAPEL 4-8-5 D Harrison (5-6 fav) Lord Huntingdon 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

LOBILIO 2½l 3rd to Lobi in Newmarket (1m 2f, good) handicap. PROSEQUENDO 1¾l 4th of 14 to Day Of History in Folkestone (1m 4f, good) handicap last season.
BLACKPATCH HILL beat BROUGHTON'S TANGO (2lb better off) 2l in Folkestone (1m 4f, good) handicap. FAIR FLYER head 2nd in Catterick (1m 4f, good to soft) handicap. BROUGHTON'S TANGO beat Rosgill 5l in Warwick (1m 4f, soft) handicap. KOVALEVSKIA 3½l 2nd in Southwell (AW, 2m) handicap.
Selection: BLACKPATCH HILL

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

ASCOT
BBC1

2.30: The gentle exercise enjoyed by Spinning and Daru on their seasonal debuts told us nothing new. Spinning prefers faster ground and can take a keen hold, while Daru has yet to race in Group company. Daru is expected to make his mark in this grade but **Assessor** is preferred today. Winner of the French St Leger, Assessor shaped with great promise in the John Porter Stakes even though the pace and trip were unsuitable for this proven stayer. Roll A Dollar is more effective over a mile-and-a-half.

3.05: **Zind** remains a maiden after four starts but is the clear form choice. His excellent third behind Armiger in Group One company reads better than King Paris's second to White Crown at Sandown. Tioman Island was back in fourth but may reverse the placings with the benefit of a recent run. Palace Pageant was disappointing last time out, while Tomos needs to improve significantly to influence the argument.

3.40: A 6lb penalty for his narrow Brighton victory makes **Millsolin**'s task all the more difficult, but Reg Akehurst's five-year-old has a lot going for him. Unsuited by fast ground, Millsolin should find the straight seven furlongs much to his liking and Richard Quinn can use his turn of foot to telling effect. Risk Master is an obvious danger on his recent Newbury effort, although Efharisto should finish much closer today. He is allowed 5lb for less than six lengths. Of the Lynda Ramsden pair, Hob Green is preferred to Will Of Steel. Hob Green shaped promisingly at Thirsk last time and rates as the chief threat.

Julian Muscat

EXETER

THUNDERER

2.20 Glitterbird. 2.50 Ess El Ar. 3.20 Clever Shepherd. 3.50 Genie Spirit. 4.20 Ardbrin. 4.50 Kaher.

GOING: GOOD SIS

2.20 WILLIAM HILL ACTION LINE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(Conditionals: £1,868: 2m 2f) (18 runners)

1 4132 LAND OF THE FREE 5 (BF,F,S) M Pipe 4-11-10 D Richmond
2 1243 HAPPY HORSE 13 (S) D Barons 6-11-6 R Davis
3 2113 EMSBOY 11 (F,G,S) P Cundell 5-11-4 R Greene
4 0422 THE MINDER 18 (S) G Edwards 6-10-13 D Salter
5 2542 AMPHIGORY 5 (B,C,F) P Radford 5-10-11 T Thompson
6 336 TALLAND STREAM 16 T Forster 6-10-10 R Farrant
7 F60- DE LA BILLIERE 379 H Willis 5-10-8 D O'Sullivan
8 4311 THE LINK MAN 18 (F,S) Miss Jacqueline S Doyle 6-10-5 S Curran
9 4252 HANDY LASS 16 Mrs A Knight 4-10-5 M Hourigan
10 8212 MECADO 18 (V,D,G,S) F Yardley 6-10-5 B Clifford
11 -UP0 WEST MONKTON 97 C Nash 7-10-1 W Marston
12 0/05 YASLOU 51 W Muir 6-10-0 J McCarthy
13 6384 KYTTON CASTLE 74 R Dickin 6-10-0 D Meredith
14 -6P2 GLITTERBIRD 15 (B) K Bishop 6-10-0 D Hobbs (3)
15 P00F BARE FISTED 12 J King 5-10-0 D Leahy
16 05P CARLINGFORD LIGHTS 51 O O'Neill 5-10-0 V Slattery
17 00/00 FAIRFIELD'S BREEZE 63 (63) R Dickin 8-10-0 D Meade
18 0R/0 BACK TO FORM 12 W Turner 8-10-0 John McCabe (5)

9-2 Land of the Free, 11-2 The Link Man, 6-1 Happy Horse, 7-1 The Minder, 8-1 Talland Stream, 9-1 Emsboy, 10-1 Handy Lass, Mecado, 16-1 others.

2.50 WILLIAM HILL COME ON GRACIE CHALLENGE TROPHY (£1,763: 2m 2f) (16)

1 2100 COOMBESBURY LANE 32 (C,F,G) P Jones 7-11-12 D Leahy (5)
2 041 PRECIS 18 (S) O Carter 5-11-5 N Hawke
3 0330 ALICE SMITH 18 B Eckley 6-10-12 R Farrant (5)
4 064 BEANLEY BROOK 8 K Bailey 5-10-12 J Railton
5 20-3 BRAMBLE PINK 5 B Forsey 7-10-12 I Shoemark
6 50 BUCKNALL GIRL 40 R Brotherton 5-10-12 D Bridgwater
7 60-0 CRACKLING ANGELS 76 R Buckler 6-10-12 J Frost
8 4062 DAVES DELIGHT 18 Miss S Waterman 7-10-12 Mr C Bonner (7)
9 210F ESS EL AR 18 (BF) M Pipe 5-10-12 D Richmond (5)
10 -333 FOOLISH SOPRANO 12 N Henderson 7-10-12 J R Kavanagh
11 00-5 KOULOURA 135 R Frost 7-10-12 R Darke (7)
12 0P0P MARY BOROUGH 27 Mrs J Young 7-10-12 G Upton
13 60- RIVER STREAM 532 L Cottrell 6-10-12 S McNeill
14 4400 SAILOR'S ROSE 12 (B) M Pipe 5-10-12 M Foster
15 PP05 STORMY SUNSET 8 W Dennis 6-10-12 Mr N Moore (7)
16 0 TRECOMETTI 58 D Barons 5-10-12 R Davis (5)

6-4 Ess El Ar, 6-1 Foolish Soprano, 13-2 Precis, 7-1 Beanley Brook, 10-1 Bramble Pink, 14-1 Daves Delight, 16-1 Coomesbury Lane, 20-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 105 winners from 257 runners, 40.9%. T Thomson Jones, 4 from 12, 33.3%; R Baker, 3 from 17, 17.6%; P Hobbs, 22 from 130, 16.9%; T Forster, 9 from 54, 16.7%; R Dickin, 4 from 27, 14.8%.

JOCKEYS: M Foster, 10 winners from 31 rides, 32.3%; B Clifford, 5 from 26, 19.2%; L Harvey, 5 from 31, 16.1%; Peter Hobbs, 15 from 95, 15.8%; J Frost, 22 from 140, 15.7%; G Upton, 6 from 40, 15.0%.

Blinkered first time

ASCOT: 2.00 Katiba. 3.40 Efharisto. 4.40 Lobilio.

3.20 WILLIAM HILL FIRST FOR PRICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,259: 2m 7f 110yd) (15)

1 -04P KARAKTER REFERENCE 196 (F,G) R O'Sullivan 11-12-0 D O'Sullivan (3)
2 RSP1 THE LEGGETT 35 (C,F,G,S) M Pipe 10-11-8 M Foster
3 /PP2 UP AND COMING 35 (F,G) N Henderson 10-11-7 J R Kavanagh
4 -540 TEAM CHALLENGE 27 (B,F,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 11-11-7 M Pitman
5 0P3P MAYORAN 16 (B,F,G,S) D Barons 9-11-6 J Frost
6 2231 PAMBER PRIORY 16 (C,G,S) T Thomson Jones 10-11-3 G Rowe
7 0364 YIRAGAN 16 (B,C,G,S) D Barons 11-11-1 C Maude
8 /1-3P SHEEPHAVEN 16 (G) T Etherington 9-10-10 R Supple
9 2142 DANDY MINSTREL 11 (F,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 9-10-9 D Bridgwater
10 314/ THE NIGELSTAN 720 (F,G,S) P Hedger 12-10-8 L Harvey
11 6232 CLEVER SHEPHERD 13 (F,G) P Hobbs 8-10-6 Peter Hobbs
12 43UP MANDER'S WAY 65 (G,S) Miss H Knight 8-10-4 J Osborne
13 14P2 DIAMOND FORT 16 (S) J McConnochie 8-10-4 S McNeill
14 1353 BERESFORDS GIRL 16 (CD,F,G,S) P Murphy 8-10-3 E Murphy
15 6/1P-P DUNBRODY ABBEY 106 (F) T Forster 10-10-0 N Hawke

5-1 Clever Shepherd, 11-2 Dandy Minstrel, 6-1 Up And Coming, 13-2 Diamond Fort, 8-1 Pamber Priory, Beresfords Girl, 10-1 Yiragan, 12-1 The Leggett, 16-1 Time Challenge, 20-1 others.

3.50 WILLIAM HILL INSTANT CREDIT NOVICES SELLING HURDLE (£1,742: 2m 3f 110yd) (13)

1 1346 CROWN BALADEE 13 M Usher 5-11-9 H Davies
2 6 BANG ON TARGET 18 A Jarvis 5-11-2 T Jarvis
3 -P05 DEVON PRIDE 16 M Churches 6-11-2 Mr C Bonner (7)
4 JACK PRESTO Mrs S Farr 5-11-2 S Mackey
5 P-P0 WATER CARRIER 12 (B) W G Turner 6-11-2 S Burrough
6 P4F4 EMMA VICTORIA 16 R Brotherton 5-10-11 D Bridgwater
7 14 MILLROUS 92 (BF,S) M Pipe 5-10-11 M Foster
8 006 MUTUAL AGREEMENT 34 R Frost 6-10-11 J Frost
9 0562 NORTHERN OPTIMIST 16 B Llewellyn 5-10-11 Mr J L Llewellyn (7)
10 05 GREY CPHAS 15 Mrs S Williams 4-10-9 S McNeill
11 540P COOCHIE 5 (B) R Baker 4-10-4 L Harvey
12 P02P GENIE SPIRIT 6 N Twiston-Davies 4-10-4 C Llewellyn
13 00 LIDDINGTON BELLE 21 J King 4-10-4 J R Kavanagh

15-8 Crown Baladee, 2-1 Millrous, 11-2 Northern Optimist, 10-1 Emma Victoria, 12-1 Coochie, Genie Spirit, Bang On Target, 16-1 others.

4.20 WILLIAM HILL DIAMOND EDGE CHALLENGE TROPHY HANDICAP CHASE (£3,624: 2m 2f) (6 runners)

1 -140 WHATEVER YOU LIKE 41 (G,S) N Henderson 9-11-11 J R Kavanagh
2 6141 ARDBRIN 34 (F,G,S) T Tate 10-11-9 D Murphy
3 2212 WIDE BOY 15 (D,F,G,S) P Hobbs 11-11-4 Mr G Lewis (7)
4 F123 DR ROCKET 6 (F,G,S) R Dickin 8-10-8 D Meredith (3)
5 -112 GREEN ISLAND 34 (C,F) A Dunn 7-10-0 Peter Hobbs
6 R-P3 BUTLERS PET 15 (C,F,G,S) T Hallett 14-10-0 N Downs (7)

2-1 Ardbrin, 3-1 Wide Boy, 7-2 Dr Rocket, Green Island, 6-1 Whatever You Like, 50-1 Butlers Pet.

4.50 WILLIAM HILL SIMPLY THE BEST HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,612: 2m 2f) (13)

1 P301 MARDOOD 8 (G,S) P Leach 8-11-12 (7ex) H Davies
2 582P SYDMONTON 18 (G) N Henderson 7-11-10 J R Kavanagh
3 444P MAD CASANOVA 8 (B,G,S) R O'Sullivan 8-11-9 D O'Sullivan (3)
4 -550 KAHER 113 (BF,F,G) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-9 C Llewellyn
5 4020 CELCIUS 18 (B,C,D,F,G,S) M Pipe 9-11-9 T Dascombe (7)
6 61/1 LING 14 (D,S) R Frost 8-11-8 J Frost
7 3001 REDGRAVE GIRL 12 (C,F,G,S) K Bishop 11-11-5 D Hobbs (7)
8 224F SOUTH SANDS 71 (BF,C,D,F,G) Mrs J Wonnacott 7-11-4 R Edwards (7)
9 U10- FRESH-MINT 390 (C,F,S) B Forsey 9-11-1 B Clifford
10 221P NOVA SPIRIT 18 (CD,F,S) M Saunders 5-11-0 S Mackey
11 0105 MOVING OUT 18 (B,G) Miss H Knight 5-10-5 J Osborne
12 004P DOMINION TREASURE 18 (G,S) R Baker 8-10-0 G Upton
13 4535 CARDMANDOO 53 (V,G,S) A Barrow 5-10-0 W Irvine

4-1 Mardood, 5-1 Ling, 6-1 Moving Out, 13-2 Kaher, 7-1 Redgrave Girl, 8-1 South Sands, 10-1 Celcius, 12-1 Sydmonton, 14-1 Nova Spirit, 20-1 others.

KELSO

THUNDERER

2.15 Marked Card. 2.45 Equator. 3.15 Aahsaylad. 3.45 Whaat Fettle. 4.15 Once Stung. 4.45 Casual Pass.

Brian Beel: 4.15 Once Stung.

GOING: SOFT SIS

2.15 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,976: 2m 2f) (12 runners)

1 0211 MISTIC GLEN 16 (F,S) J Parkes 4-11-10 N Smith
2 0111 TRUMP 16 (G) C Parker 4-11-4 B Storey
3 3325 DANCING DAYS 16 (B,G) J Parkes 7-11-0 C Woodall (7)
4 2331 WEE WIZARD 15 (S) M Barnes 4-10-13 P Waggott (5)
5 6224 ANTIGUAN FLYER 16 J Bostock 4-10-10 C Grant
6 5522 MARKED CARD 16 Mrs M Kendall 5-10-6 Mrs M Kendall
7 253P SARONA SMITH 22 F Walton 6-10-4 R Hodge
8 3F63 LOVING OMEN 7 (B) Miss Z Green 6-10-1 K Doolan
9 056 CARNETTO 56 R Brewis 6-10-0 K Johnson
10 0006 BRIAR'S DELIGHT 18 J Dixon 5-10-0 A Orkney
11 0-50 CIRCLE BOY 50 R Lamb 6-10-0 A Merrigan
12 0P05 JUST EVE 7 J Gledson 6-10-0 T Reed

100-30 Mistic Glen, 4-1 Trump, 5-1 Wee Wizard, 11-2 Loving Omen, 7-1 Marked Card, 9-1 Antiguan Flyer, 12-1 Dancing Days, Sarona Smith, 20-1 others.

2.45 WEE HOWFF NOVICES CHASE (£2,736: 2m 1f) (5)

1 2144 ALGARI 16 (CD,F) G Richards 6-11-7 M Moloney
2 -F51 SILK DEGREES 22 (D,F,G) W Storey 7-11-7 K Doolan
3 5623 EQUATOR 5 (S) J Haldane 10-11-0 A Merrigan
4 40P- MAYOR OF LISCARROL M Smith 8-11-0 G Harker
5 365P TARTAN TORNADO 7 G Richards 7-11-0 N Doughty

6-5 Silk Degrees, 15-8 Algari, 9-2 Equator, 7-1 Tartan Tornado, 33-1 Mayor Of Liscarrol.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: T Dalgetty, 3 winners from 7 runners, 42.9%; G Richards, 43 from 166, 25.9%; M Hammond, 12 from 59, 20.3%; M H Easterby, 6 from 37, 16.2%; R Brewis, 3 from 20, 15.0. Only qualifiers.

JOCKEYS: Mr A Thornton, 6 winners from 19 rides, 31.6%; N Doughty, 30 from 96, 31.3%; Mr J M Dun, 4 from 13, 30.8%; M Moloney, 11 from 53, 20.8%; K Johnson, 7 from 44, 15.9%; C Grant, 20 from 127, 15.7%.

3.15 HEARTS FC NOVICES HURDLE
(Amateurs: £2,416: 3m 3f) (13)

1 1P11 AAHSAYLAD 11 (B,G,S) J White 7-12-5 A Thornton (3)
2 340P FURRY BABY 15 (D,G,S) M Anson 6-12-0 Mrs J Brown (7)
3 5P25 BENGHAZI 11 A Thomson 9-11-10 R Hale (7)
4 BOB'S REQUEST J Charlton 5-11-10 D Parker (7)
5 /P-0 BWANA SIMBA 16 J Oliver 8-11-10 P Johnson (5)
6 0050 DO A RUNNER 18 J Love 6-11-10 S Love (7)
7 0 HULA 88 Mrs S Taylor 5-11-10 Mr N Hardman (7)
8 LAUDER SQUARE T Dun 5-11-10 Miss P Robson (7)
9 000 THE TARTAN DYER 16 G Richards 6-11-10 T Jenks (5)
10 ABERNETHY PEARL B Dun 7-11-5 J M Dun (5)
11 BY THE BYE R Lamb 6-11-5 A Manners (7)
12 F453 CELTIC WATERS 6 Mrs D Thomson 8-11-5 D Mactaggart (5)
13 P003 SCARLET BERRY 11 R Brewis 5-11-5 A Robson (7)

8-11 Aahsaylad, 5-2 Furry Baby, 4-1 Benghazi, 14-1 The Tartan Dyer, 20-1 Do A Runner, 25-1 others

3.45 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,924: 2m 6f 110yd) (5)

1 1135 ARMAGRET 15 (F,G,S) B Wilkinson 8-12-0 D Byrne
2 U4P0 WHAAT FETTLE 11 (C,G,S) G Richards 8-10-9 M Moloney
3 4233 BLUFF KNOLL 5 (C,F,G,S) R Brewis 10-10-9 G Harker
4 3203 INTERIM LIB 12 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 10-10-0 Mr J Bradburne
5 51P1 CAROUSEL ROCKET 16 (C,F,G,S) M Hammond 10-10-0 D Bentley (5)

5-2 Armagret, 11-4 Whaat Fettle, 3-1 Interim Lib, 7-2 Bluff Knoll, 6-1 Carousel Rocket.

4.15 CHARLIE BROWN FAMILY UNITED BORDER HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £2,262: 3m 1f) (8)

1 113F DAVY BLAKE 5 (CD,F,G) T Dalgetty 6-12-4 J Dun (5)
2 -122 FINAL CHANT 47 (BF,CD,F,G,S) D Brydon 12-12-4 Mrs J Brown (7)
3 2131 ONCE STUNG 23 (CD,F,G,S) P Cheesbrough 7-12-4 J Greenall
4 U384 PADDY HAYTON 39 (F,G,S) S Leadbetter 12-12-4 R Shiels (5)
5 66PV ACROSS THE LAKE 714 (S) Mrs A Farrell 9-11-12 Miss S Brotherton (7)
6 0R-2 FISH QUAY 5 (C,F,G,S) Mrs K Lamb 10-11-12 Miss S Lamb (7)
7 2-F6 JIMMY RIVER 61 (S) K Anderson 10-11-12 A Parker (7)
8 0/P- HOBBYS GIRL 439 Miss S Rettie 8-11-7 M Hargreave (7)

5-4 Once Stung, 4-1 Davy Blake, Jimmy River, 5-1 Final Chant, 13-2 Fish Quay, 20-1 Paddy Hayton, 25-1 others.

4.45 ALLOA PUBS AND RESTAURANTS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,584: 2m 110yd) (4)

1 2105 PREOBLAKENSKY 11 (C,D,G,S) G Richards 6-11-10 B Harding (7)
2 -212 BAY TERN 7 (C,D,F,G) T Dyer 7-11-3 P Harley
3 0610 GYMCRAK SOVEREIGN 79 (D,S) M H Easterby 5-10-8 R Garritty
4 R211 CASUAL PASS 18 (B,C,D,G,S) L Lungo 10-10-0 T Reed

15-8 Casual Pass, 9-4 Bay Tern, 11-4 Preoblakensky, 7-2 Gymcrak Sovereign.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S MEETINGS

Bath

Going: good (good to soft in places)

2.30 (5f 11yd) 1, Air Command (G Bardwell, 33-1); 2, Hy Wilma (6-1); †3, Tee-Emm (8-1); †3, Spenmax (14-1). Red Leader 6-4 fav. 11 ran. ¾l, nk. J Bridger. Tote £30.90; £4.90, £1.60, Tee-Emm £1.20, Spenmax £2.50. DF: £67.60. CSF £203.46.

3.00 (5f 11yd) 1, Cobblers Hill (T Lang, 33-1); 2, Mister Jolson (4-1 fav); 3, Sir Joey (5-1). 15 ran. Sh hd, 1l. C Barwell. Tote £45.70, £15.50, £1.90, £2.10. DF: £151.70. CSF £154.49. Tricast: £732.30. After a stewards' enquiry, Call To The Bar, who finished first, was disqualified and placed last.

3.30 (5f 11yd) 1, Case Law (G Duffield, Evens fav); 2, Cradle Days (5-1); 3, Allthruthenight (11-1). 8 ran. Sh hd, ¾l. M Prescott. Tote: £2.10; £1.40, £1.90, £1.80. DF: £5.10. CSF: £7.36.

4.00 (1m 3f 144yd) 1, Sword Master (N Day, 5-1); 2, State Of Affairs (5-1); 3, Lexus (12-1). Monarda 5-2 fav. 13 ran. NR: Prince Hannibal. 2½l, 3l. Bob Jones. Tote: £5.60; £2.30, £2.00, £3.00. DF: £17.70. CSF: £27.80. Tricast £257.53.

4.30 (1m 2f 46yd) 1, Hoochiecoochie Man (R Price, 16-1); 2, Bowbay (85-1); 3, Sky Burst (25-1). Without A Flag 11-4 fav. 16 ran. NR: One Off The Rail. 1½l, 2½l. D Arbuthnot. Tote £20.90; £4.00, £18.30, £11.50. DF: £515.10. CSF: £603.62.

5.00 (1m 2f 46yd) 1, Son Of Sharp Shot (R Cochrane, 9-4 fav); 2, Grand Applause (14-1); 3, My Harvinski (13-2). 11 ran. NR: Beydon Belle. 1¾l, nk. J Dunlop. Tote £3.00; £1.70, £4.90, £2.20. DF: £36.40. CSF: £34.04. Tricast: £178.34. After a stewards' enquiry, result stood.

Placepot: not won.

Nottingham

Going: good to soft (soft in places)

2.15 (1m 6f 15yd) 1, Kinoko (K Darley, 10-1); 2, Lookingforarainbow (12-1); 3, Peak District (11-1); 4, Zealous Kitten (9-1). Enfant Du Paradis 7-1 jt-fav. 20 ran. 1l, ¾l. K Hogg. Tote: £10.10; £2.10, £4.40, £3.90, £2.70. DF: £67.20. CSF: £125.41. Tricast: £1,249.14.

2.45 (6f 15yd) 1, Dead Calm (L Dettori, 100-30 fav); 2, Nutty Brown (7-2); 3, Irish Roots (4-1). 11 ran. 3l, 1½l. C Tinkler. Tote: £3.70; £1.10, £2.10, £1.80. DF: £4.00. CSF: £15.35. Katioca withdrawn, not under orders — rule 4 applies to bets prior to withdrawal only, deduction 10p in pound.

3.15 (6f 15yd) 1, Specified (Pat Eddery, 7-4 fav); 2, Rock Symphony (10-1); 3, Carranita (7-1). 7 ran. Hd, 1½l. J Gosden. Tote: £2.70; £1.90, £3.50. DF: £15.20. CSF: £18.08.

3.45 (5f 13yd) 1, Snipe Hall (P Robinson, 12-1); 2, Palacegate Jack (5-2 fav); 3, Royal Insignia (4-1). 19 ran. 3l, hd. J Wharton. Tote: £14.40; £3.10, £2.20, £2.20. DF: £83.00. CSF: £48.32.

4.15 (1m 1f 213yd) 1, Alderbrook (Paul Eddery, 7-4 fav); 2, Surrey Dancer (7-1); 3, Jimili (14-1); 4, Sinclair Lad (8-1). 16 ran. NR: Maple Bay. 1½l, 2l. Mrs J Cecil. Tote: £2.40; £1.10, £1.10, £3.60. DF: £7.40. CSF: £15.26. Tricast: £132.92.

4.45 (1m 54yd) 1, Zajira (W Carson, 10-1); 2, Serotina (16-1); 3, Balnaha (9-2). Abbraak 7-2 fav. 15 ran. 2½l, 2l. R Armstrong. Tote: £11.80; £2.40, £9.20, £3.10. DF: £434.10. CSF: £149.23.

5.15 (1m 54yd) 1, Midnight Heights (A McGlone, 5-2 fav); 2, Daring Past (14-1); 3, Genoenc (16-1); 4, Desirable Miss (14-1). 17 ran. 1l, 5l. J Dunlop. Tote: £3.90; £1.90, £3.70, £4.70, £2.40. DF: £66.80. CSF: £40.43. Tricast £471.18.

Placepot: £197.70.

Ascot

Going: good

5.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Sure Pride (G Moore, 16-1); 2, Cautious Rebel (10-1); 3, Joker Jack (20-1). 1-3 Fav Archie Brown. 7 ran. 4l, 20l. A Moore. Tote: £13.20; £3.00, £2.30. DF: £45.40. CSF: £128.03.

6.00 (2m 3f 110yd ch) 1, The Master Gunner (R Davis, 15-8 fav); 2, Theo's Fella (11-2); 3, Master Muck (10-1). 11 ran. NR: Flying Finish. 20l, 5l. K Bailey. Tote: £2.60; £1.40, £1.90, £1.90. DF: £6.10. CSF: £11.87.

Huntingdon

Going: soft

5.45 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Bobby Socks (L Harvey, 9-4 jt-fav); 2, They All Forgot Me (9-4 jt-fav); 3, Solar Cloud (10-1). 7 ran. NR: Berkisland, Wickfield Lad, The Fruit. 4l, 8l. R Lee. Tote: £2.90; £2.00, £1.60. DF: £4.90. CSF: £7.77. Tricast: £36.90.

6.15 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Barcham (P Smith Eccles, 9-4 fav); 2, I'm Special (20-1); 3, Early Breeze (7-1). 14 ran. NR: Lady Randolph. 20l, 2l. G Pritchard-Gordon. Tote: £3.50; £1.60, £2.60, £3.00. DF: £12.50. CSF: £49.15. Tricast: £277.35.

Monday's late results

Windsor

Going: good to soft

6.40 (5f 10yd) 1, True Precision (A Munro, 10-1); 2, Florac (20-1); 3, My Bonus (10-1). Press The Bell 15-8 fav. 14 ran. NR: Daanera. ¾l, 2½l. J Bethell. Tote: £13.30; £2.70, £5.40, £2.60. DF: £109.90. CSF £175.48. Tricast £1,873.14.

7.10 (1m 3f 135yd) 1, Dana Springs (Pat Eddery, 5-1); 2, Buglet (14-1); 3, Moon Carnival (6-2 fav). 13 ran. NR: Cosmic Star. Hd, 1l. R Hannon. Tote £4.00; £2.20, £4.70, £1.80. DF: £122.80. CSF: £70.95. Tricast £203.01.

7.40 (5f 10yd) 1, Lemon Souffle (L Piggott, 3-1); 2, Cyama Quinn (100-30); 3, Sweet Whisper (10-1). Mullion At Dawn 5-2 fav. 9 ran. NR: Raise Point. 2½l, 2½l. R Hannon. Tote £3.60; £1.10, £1.30, £3.30. DF: £8.90. CSF: £13.84.

8.10 (1m 67yd) 1, Comanche Companion (A Munro, 4-1 fav); 2, Misbollef (8-1); 3, Raging Thunder (16-1). 20 ran. NR: Roseleoes. 2l, 3l. T Naughton. Tote: £7.80; £1.30, £3.20, £7.50. DF: £56.70. CSF: £34.78.

Placepot: £3,133.60.

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Pakistan's struggle becomes a bitter one

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK IN BRIDGETOWN

JUST as happened when they were beaten here in 1988, Pakistan felt their task of saving this second Test match against West Indies was made doubly difficult by the umpiring yesterday. First Mujtaba, then Moin Khan, the two batsmen to lose their wickets before lunch, could hardly tear themselves away from the wicket after being given out. An hour into the afternoon Pakistan, needing 234 to save an innings defeat, were 215 for eight.

Pakistan had been getting their heads down well, too. Moin, Sunday's nightwatchman, and Mujtaba were still together after 80 minutes. They had added only 20 runs, but they were surviving comfortably enough when umpire Barker upheld an appeal from Benjamin, bowling round the wicket to the left-handed Mujtaba. The consensus was that the ball would have missed the leg stump, if not another set of stumps.

If Mujtaba's reluctance to accept Barker's decision amounted to dissent, he did not hang around as long as Moin when, soon afterwards, umpire Bird gave him caught at the wicket off Hooper. Moin stood his ground for almost as long as Chris Broad at Lahore in 1987, when Gooch, his partner, had eventually to lead him away.

There were no such things as match referees then. Now there is one, but Raman Subba Row was prepared to take a more lenient view of yesterday's events than most schoolmasters would approve of. Because there was no slamming of bats, he felt "a quiet word" with Mujtaba, and even with Moin, would be sufficient.

After the three Pakistanis — Aqib, Mushtaq and Latif — it is now the turn of Ian Bishop, one of West Indies' four fast bowlers, to be laid low with back trouble. He was off the field yesterday morning, having gone for a scan. It is the same trouble that kept him out of the game for 18 months and forced him to change his action before coming back.

This, obviously, is bad news for West Indies and Derbyshire, to whom he is contracted, but it helped Pakistan yesterday as they continued their rearguard action. At 25, Bishop is by some way the youngest of the West Indies fast bowlers, and with 23 wickets in their recent Test series in Australia, plus another six in the first Test match against Pakistan in Trinidad, he is close behind Ambrose as the most effective of the present quartet.

Bishop's absence meant that Hooper was in action yesterday sooner than he otherwise would have been. Moin started life as a batsman, which his wicketkeeping rather suggests, and now he presented a conspicuously straight bat to the West Indies bowling. It was Mujtaba who needed the day's first stroke of luck when, after half an hour, Hooper dropped him at second slip off Walsh, a low two-handed chance to Hooper's left.

The first three days of the match had brought large crowds and record receipts, and the stands were again well filled. The fact that Barbados had to make do without a one-day international has been a factor in this. But the chances of there being a fifth day had much been much reduced by lunchtime.

Once Mujtaba had gone, the play became packed with incident. In the same over by Hooper, Moin was missed at the wicket and Basit at slip, the second a straightforward chance to Lara off Hooper's arm ball. Basit was then one. But in Hooper's next over Moin, on the back foot, either did or did not get an inside edge. Unfortunately for him, Bird decided he had.

Inzamam played well for 75 minutes before Benjamin, with a new ball, disposed of him and Wasim in the same over. So, again, Basit found himself alone on the burning deck. But by the time of the second drinks of the afternoon he had gone as well, leg before to a full toss from Walsh.

This success made Walsh the seventh West Indies bowler to have taken 200 Test wickets.

WEST INDIES: First Innings 455 (D L Haynes 125, P V Simmons 87, K L T Arthurton 56, B C Lara 51, Waqar Younis 4-132)

PAKISTAN: First Innings 221 (Basit Ali 92 not out; C A Walsh 4-56).

Second Innings

Aamir Sohail c Benjamin b Ambrose	4
Ramiz Raja lbw Walsh	25
Asif Mujtaba lbw b Benjamin	41
Javed Miandad c Arthurton b Hooper	43
†Moin Khan c Murray b Hooper	17
Basit Ali lbw b Walsh	37
Inzamam-ul-Haq lbw b Benjamin	26
*Wasim Akram b Benjamin	0
Waqar Younis not out	6
Aqib Javed not out	0
Extras (lb 12, lb 1 nb 3)	16
Total (8 wkts)	215

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-47, 3-113, 4-133, 5-141, 6-207, 7-207, 8-215.

Umpires: H D Bird and L H Barker.

Broad swiftly finds little has changed on return to Bristol

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

BRISTOL (Derbyshire won toss): Derbyshire beat Gloucestershire by five wickets

AS HOMECOMINGS go, this was a low-key affair — damp day, sparse crowd and a ground that remains soulless in its vastness, despite a £2 million face-lift. For Chris Broad, back at Bristol ten years after leaving to seek fame in more fashionable surroundings, nothing had greatly changed.

"I feel as if I have never been away," he said, before going out to mark his return with a poised half-century against Derbyshire. Gloucestershire's supporters know what he means. A decade ago, they were often in trouble once Broad was out and it was the same story yesterday as 113 for one became 180 for seven, an instant exit from the Benson and Hedges Cup looming. The prodigal son will soon learn that he cannot afford to give away his wicket in this side. Gloucestershire have been far from mighty for some years but look especially vulnerable now. By mid-season, however, Broad could be an absentee for, even at 35, he may be the best bet to go in first with Graham Gooch against Australia.

It was this prospect which helped Broad pick up some shattered pieces last autumn, when he was summarily dismissed by Nottinghamshire. This was the club where, in nine seasons, he gained 25 Test caps and won all four county competitions. Relations had sometimes been strained, for Broad can be a difficult and confrontational character, but the sack was a fate he had never considered.

"The sense of shock remains," he said. "I don't think I shall ever forgive, and that is a very sad thing to say. Sport, I always believed, is based on loyalty to people. That club showed none at all, but it is they who have to live with it now."

Broad says he thought seriously about giving up cricket. "I was disenchanted enough to look at various things away from the game. But people kept telling me that I am a long time retired."

It seemed natural to him to come home to Bristol. He was born here, after all, and learnt to play cricket at W. G Grace's first club. His father served on the Gloucestershire committee and Broad himself only left the county because he thought England selectors would watch him more at Trent Bridge. He was right, too.

"It doesn't feel strange to be back," he said. "I moved to the city in October and had a winter job here. No cricket, just a complete break. I'm as keen as anyone to play for England. The opening is there for anyone who makes runs."

Broad's start would have earned a B-plus from an England selector, had one bothered to come. He has that facility to make the job look ridiculously easy, a virtue greatly assisted by Derbyshire's insistence on bowling at his legs, feeding the strokes he plays better than anybody in the country.

The platform for a competitive total was built by a 94-run stand for the second wicket but, in quick succession, Broad and Richard Scott drove half-volleys to cover and Tony Wright cut a long hop to backward point.

Gloucestershire had little hope of defending 198, on a drying pitch and against one of the best top fours in England, especially when Barnett and Bowler duly knocked off 101 of them with the minimum of fuss. Ironically, the contest was prolonged by a splendid spell from another Nottinghamshire discard, Kevin Cooper.

Derbyshire, needing six from the final over, made it from the last ball. The losers will inevitably question the fairness of scheduling a knock-out round of a lucrative tournament as the season's first game. And they will have a good point.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



In full flow: Maynard on his way to 89 yesterday

Maynard enhances England chances

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

CANTERBURY (Kent won toss): Glamorgan beat Kent by 104 runs

KENT, beaten by Hampshire in the final last year, will not be returning to Lord's. They suffered the most embarrassing defeat yesterday, by 104 runs, inflicted by a Glamorgan team whose unity and purpose was evident every step of the way. Glamorgan defended a score of 236 for seven with resolute outcricket and now meet Sussex at Cardiff on May 11.

Matthew Maynard, whose 89 was an outstandingly fluent innings on a pitch far from ideal for a batsman of his temperament, was selected man of the match. Steve Barwick was the other significant contributor by taking four wickets, of which the third, Fleming, effectively ended Kent's interest.

In taking it, Barwick was assisted by Colin Metson's brilliant leg-side stumping off a ball that the umpire, Gerald Stickley, called wide. Adrian Dale's running catch, which ended the Kent innings, confirmed the spirit of the side.

Having regained the captaincy, Hugh Morris does not intent to relinquish it again. He made 44 valuable runs, spread over 38 overs but essential to the team's cause, and then supervised a driven performance in the field.

Maynard has much to play for and the manner in which he made his runs can only have impressed the watching Keith Fletcher. There are probably 15 batsmen who nurse genuine hopes of selection for the first Test and Maynard, who is towards the back of the queue, must advance his claims through sheer weight of runs.

Going out of one of the four competitions before the end of April is a unique form of death but few of Kent's peers will repine. Last year, a Glamorgan man approached one of their players in a friendly manner only to be rebuffed. Others tell similar tales.

Apparently, the Canterbury edict is not to consort with opponents during playing hours, in which case Garbo would have walked into the side and Marcel Marceau might have had a fair shout.

Rugby's malaise has grip that may not loosen

Peter Bills concludes that rules to stop abuse of the amateur ethos will be hard to enforce

THE background to the Rugby Football Union (RFU) working party's report on payments in breach of rugby union rules is an indictment of malaise among administrators. Officials from the RFU and clubs surprised at the apparent widespread problem have been those who believed there was no serious difficulty.

One official said yesterday: "The vast majority of clubs started protesting about this two or three years ago. But nobody took any notice when the problem was first raised. When those in power went on hiding behind the argument that they could do nothing without concrete proof, knowing full well that wasn't possible to acquire in the real world, the vast majority of clubs found themselves drawn kicking and screaming into that way of life."

Now a problem has become a crisis. In the light of the report some of the more shocking stories have become less apocryphal.

The report, *Inducements to move, incentives to stay and other illegal payments*, was compiled by the RFU committee's representatives of three constituent bodies: R A G Rogers (Sussex), B C Brittle (Staffordshire) and Capt C R Tuffley (Royal Navy and Royal Marines). Their conclusions are such that they recommend the new regulations be brought in by July 9. Such haste is unprecedented but underlines the seriousness with which the report's findings have been greeted.

The list of new regulations is extensive. The checklist of permitted and non-permitted activities is for players "below the international squad". But those officials who have seen the document say that to exclude internationals from the new restrictions is likely to cause a storm of protest.

In addition to the list of acceptable and unacceptable activities for material benefit, there are other restrictions. They include:

☐ Mileage: no more than 20 pence per mile based on official AA distances for the journey to and from matches and squad sessions.

☐ Subsistence: cost of overnight accommodation limited to bed and breakfast when considered necessary and authorised by the club's treasurer.

☐ Meals: an incidental allowance of not more than £20 a day.

☐ Rail travel: second-class unless first-class is agreed with club treasurer.

☐ Air travel: cost of internal United Kingdom travel only acceptable if authorised by club treasurer.

☐ Motor vehicles: car hire only accepted if economic to both club and player and authorised by club treasurer. Hire allowed only to enable a player to attend club matches or squad sessions. Hire for a season or unspecified period not permissible. Supplying a car for rugby playing purposes is also not permissable.

☐ Receipts for all petrol, accommodation, meals and car parking expenses must be produced. Payment is also subject to the provision of VAT numbered receipts.

The penalties for clubs and players found guilty of breaching the new regulations include the deduction of points from clubs' championship matches. The penalties available to the authorities are:

☐ For a person: a severe reprimand; suspension for not more than one season; forfeiture of amateur status.

☐ For a club: a severe reprimand; deduction of not more than six Clubs Championship points; relegation at the end of the then current season from its then present league to a league not more than two lower; exclusion from national cup competitions; expulsion or suspension.

The report is a bold attempt to stop the widely-practised activities of player recruitment by material means, not least at junior club level where there are often funds available from sponsors or individuals to induce players to join. But whether it comes in time to stop abuses of a few years' standing is doubtful.

Clubs are increasingly guided by the needs of finance and, as club rugby becomes more competitive, by the pursuit of success by whatever means.

Breaches of the rules have been allowed to gain so strong a foothold in rugby that putting an emphatic halt to such activities may be more difficult than the authorities, until now inactive on the subject, understand.

ACTIVITIES FOR MATERIAL BENEFIT

Acceptable

☐ Speaking or appearing at non-rugby functions (including opening non-rugby commercial or other premises or facilities).

☐ Rendering services to non-rugby commercial or other organisations in return for material benefit provided that the services rendered are commensurate with the benefit and that in the case of payment in kind (eg, the use of a car) there is no identifiable rugby connection (eg, sign writing which refers to the game).

☐ Writing books, newspaper articles, magazine articles except in club publications (including tour brochures).

☐ Broadcasting (television or radio).

☐ Interviews with media (press, television or radio) except pre-match and post-match press conferences.

☐ Appearances on Rugby Special, Question of Sport, Question Time, etc (radio or television).

☐ Advertising or endorsing any non-rugby product if there is no rugby connotation and there is no breach of the proviso to regulation 4.1 of the IRFB regulations relating to amateurism.

☐ Any appearance, communication or advertisement in respect of which there is no material benefit.

Unacceptable

☐ Appearing at rugby functions; speaking at rugby functions without the RFU's consent.

☐ Taking part in any rugby activity (eg, match or training session).

☐ Writing articles in club publications (including tour brochures).

☐ Pre-match and post-match press conferences.

☐ Advertising or endorsing any rugby-related product.

☐ Advertising or endorsing any non-rugby related product if there is a rugby connotation and there is a breach of the proviso to regulation 4.1, etc.

☐ Any appearance, communication or advertisement which discloses confidential information or brings the game into disrepute.

☐ Any other activity which contravenes the IRFB regulations relating to amateurism.

Smith suffers for decisive catch

BY JACK BAILEY

SOUTHAMPTON (Combined Universities won toss): Hampshire beat Combined Universities by nine wickets

THE Universities combined well enough to extend the Benson and Hedges Cup holders without stretching them unduly. Hampshire loped home for their seventh comfortable win in seven encounters between the teams, but there was an anxious moment when those with Hampshire and England at heart held their breath.

Delight was swiftly followed by considerable concern when Robin Smith sprinted round the boundary and took a catch in front of the sightscreen at knee height and at full tilt. In doing so, he put an end to arguably the best innings of the day, played on his twentieth birthday by Jeremy Snape, of Durham University and Northamptonshire. Smith held on to the ball but was taken by his momentum head first into the advertising hoardings.

The dreadful clatter heralded both the realistic end of the Universities' dash for glory as Snape made his way back, and the retirement of Smith, suffering from a gashed forehead that required 20 stitches, as well as a case of mild concussion. "A good way of getting warmed up for the likes of Merv Hughes," Smith said.

Snape's departure put an end to the Universities' ability to carry the game to Hampshire. Middleton was well suited to the pace required by needing to score 177 at barely more than three an over. His solid, undefeated 91, made for the most part while David Gower took a useful net at the other end, saw Hampshire home with five overs to spare and won him the gold award.

YESTERDAY'S BENSON AND HEDGES CUP SCOREBOARDS

Kent v Glamorgan

CANTERBURY (Kent won toss): Glamorgan beat Kent by 104 runs.

GLAMORGAN

S P James c and b McCague	3
*H Morris c Ligng b Fleming	44
A Dale lbw b Fleming	19
M P Maynard c Iggiesden b McCague	89
I V A Richards c Benson b Iggiesden	21
P A Cottey b McCague	14
R D B Croft not out	10
R P Lefebvre c Penn b Fleming	8
†C P Metson not out	1
Extras (lb 12, w 5, nb 10)	27
Total (7 wkts, 55 overs)	236

S L Watkin and S R Barwick did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-44, 3-135, 4-170, 5-217, 6-218, 7-232.

BOWLING: Iggiesden 11-2-31-1; McCague 11-0-39-3; Penn 11-1-54-0; Fleming 11-1-52-3; Davis 11-0-46-0

KENT

T R Ward c Maynard b Lefebvre	0
*M R Benson c Lefebvre b Croft	13
N R Taylor b Barwick	42
N J Liong c Watkin b Barwick	5
G R Cowdrey c Cottey b Richards	33
M V Fleming st Metson b Barwick	7
†S A Marsh c Richards b Watkin	6
R P Davis not out	18
C Penn b Watkin	0
M J McCague c Cottey b Richards	0
A P Igglesden c Dale b Barwick	1
Extras (lb 3, w 4)	7
Total (48.4 overs)	132

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-26, 3-35, 4-96, 5-107, 6-109, 7-114, 8-121, 9-124

BOWLING: Lefebvre 9-2-15-1, Watkin 11-2-35-2, Barwick 9.4-3-15-4, Croft 11-3-27-1; Dale 4-0-19-0; Richards 5-1-18-2

Gold Award: M P Maynard (Glamorgan).

Umpires: B Dudleston and G A Stickley

Hampshire v Combined Universities

SOUTHAMPTON (Combined Universities won toss): Hampshire beat Combined Universities by nine wickets

COMBINED UNIVERSITIES

R M Montgomerie c Terry b O'Connor	0
*J P Crawley c Marshall b Ayling	41
G B T Lovell c Aymes b Turner	18
J N Snape c Smith b Udal	52
C L Keey b Udal	1
O M Charlesworth b Marshall	14
†S F Shephard not out	30
J C Hallett c Aymes b Marshall	2
M Jeh not out	8
Extras (b 1, lb 7, w 3)	11
Total (7 wkts, 55 overs)	177

R M Pearson and R H MacDonald did not bat

FALL OF WICKET: 1-5, 2-41, 3-116, 4-117, 5-128, 6-147, 7-151

BOWLING: Marshall 11-1-24-2, Connor 11-2-36-1, Turner 11-0-41-1, Ayling 11-0-29-1, Udal 11-1-39-2

HAMPSHIRE

V P Terry c Snape b MacDonald	30
T C Middleton not out	91
D I Gower not out	41
Extras (b 1, w 7, nb 8)	8
Total (1 wkt, 50 overs)	178

R A Smith, *M C J Nicholas, M D Marshall, J R Ayling, †A N Aymes, S D Udal, I J Turner and C A Connor did not bat.

FALL OF WICKET: 1-67

BOWLING: Pearson 11-2-34-0; Jeh 5-0-34-0; Hallett 7-0-16-0; MacDonald 8-2-20-1; Snape 11-1-47-0; Charlesworth 7-0-26-0; Montgomerie 1-1-0-0

Umpires: M J Kitchen and G Sharp

Scotland v Essex

FORFAR (Scotland won toss): Essex beat Scotland by nine wickets

SCOTLAND

B M W Patterson c Hussain b Ilott	3
I L Philip c Gooch b Topley	17
G N Reifer lbw b Ilott	0
G Salmond lbw b Ilott	0
J D Love b Ilott	44
*A B Russell b Gooch	10
†D A Orr c Garnham b Gooch	0
J D Govan not out	21
A Bee b Ilott	0
I M Stanger not out	2
Extras (lb 3, w 6)	9
Total (8 wkts, 55 overs)	106

G M Hamilton did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-12, 3-14, 4-30, 5-53, 6-59, 7-99, 8-99

BOWLING: Ilott 11-2-21-5; Pringle 11-4-20-0; Topley 11-1-39-1; Stephenson 11-5-13-0; Such 5-0-9-0; Gooch 6-2-11-2

ESSEX

*G A Gooch c Stanger b Russell	41
J P Stephenson not out	50
P J Prichard not out	8
Extras (lb 5, w 3)	8
Total (1 wkt, 29.3 overs)	107

Salim Malik, N Hussain, N V Knight, †M A Garnham, D R Pringle, T D Topley, M C Ilott and P M Such did not bat.

FALL OF WICKET: 1-82

BOWLING: Bee 5-0-30-0; Stanger 5-2-12-0; Hamilton 4-0-15-0; Reifer 5-0-15-0; Govan 6-2-13-0; Russell 4 3-0-27-1.

Gold Award: M C Ilott (Essex).

Umpires: J H Hampshire and J W Holder

Gloucestershire v Derbyshire

BRISTOL (Derbyshire won toss): Derbyshire beat Gloucestershire by two wickets.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

B C Broad c Cork b Griffith	58
S G Hinks c Krikken b Cork	6
R J Scott c Barnett b Griffith	44
M W Alleyne not out	30
*A J Wright c Griffith b Mortensen	8
T H C Hancock lbw b Cork	23
†P C Russell run out	2
M C J Ball b Malcolm	11
A M Smith not out	6
Extras (lb 8, w 6)	12
Total (7 wkts, 55 overs)	198

K E Cooper and M J Gerrard did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-19, 2-113, 3-114, 4-121, 5-155, 6-160, 7-160

BOWLING: Malcolm 11-1-42-1, Cork 11-2-38-2; Mortensen 11-2-33-1, Warner 11-2-33-0, Griffith 11-2-48-2

DERBYSHIRE

K J Barnett c Ball b Smith	40
P D Bowler run out	92
J E Morris c Wright b Cooper	1
C J Adams lbw b Ball	1
T J G O'Gorman run out	34
F A Griffith not out	13
†K M Krikken not out	4
Extras (b 1, lb 6, w 6)	13
Total (5 wkts, 55 overs)	198

D G Cork, A E Warner, D E Malcolm and O H Mortensen did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-101, 2-110, 3-117, 4-170, 5-195

BOWLING: Cooper 11-2-20-1; Gerrard 11-1-44-0; Smith 11-0-45-1; Ball 11-1-32-1; Scott 11-0-52-0

Umpires: J C Balderstone and J D Bond

No play yesterday

HARTLEPOOL: Durham v Minor Counties.

☐ Mark Ilott, the England A pace bowler, helped bring Scotland's interest to a brisk end at Forfar yesterday, claiming five for 21 as Essex cantered to a nine-wicket victory.

Taylor's percentage game rattles White

BY PHIL YATES

DENNIS Taylor, the sole surviving member of the game's recognised old guard, employed his trusted percentage game to good effect in establishing a 5-3 lead over Jimmy White after the first session of their best-of-25-frame quarter-final in the £1 million Embassy world snooker championship yesterday.

After sharing the first four frames, Taylor took the lead at 3-2, and led 62-0 in the sixth following an early break of 54. White edged back, though, and after an exciting 14-shot duel on the final black, he potted it at his third attempt to draw level at 3-3.

In a clear indication of Taylor's new-found confidence, the setback did not have an adverse effect. A run of 50 helped the Irishman, aged 44, to regain the lead, and with White's shot selections by now reflecting his growing frustration, Taylor comfortably added the closing frame of the session.

Stephen Hendry, dominant in his two previous matches, was again at his fluent best against Nigel Bond, the world No 9. Hendry, who won the International Open at Plymouth three weeks ago, compiled breaks of 90, 57, 85, 59, 84, and 54 as he impressively constructed a 6-2 advantage. However, the contribution that shed the greatest light on the form of the defending champion was a 47 clearance to black in the sixth frame.

Hendry, whose positional control throughout the championship has been far above that of any of his rivals, recovered from a 22-63 deficit only after deftly dislodging two awkward reds from the side cushion.

Assisted by one beneficial slice of luck, James Wattana, of Thailand, led John Parrott, the 1991 champion, 5-3, at the conclusion of their first session.

Wattana fluked the final black in the eighth frame off three cushions to open a two-frame cushion. Parrott felt aggrieved after making the two highest breaks of the afternoon, 122 and 60.

Alan McManus, an unexpected 13-11 conqueror of Steve Davis, the six-times champion, on Monday, was far less solid in the early stages of his quarter-final against Neal Foulds.

SCORES: Quarter-finals: D Taylor (N Ire) leads J White (Eng), 5-3; J Wattana (Thai) leads J Parrott (Eng), 5-3; S Hendry (Scot) leads N Bond (Eng), 8-2; N Foulds (Eng) level with A McManus (Scot), 4-4

EMBASSY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP DRAW

FIRST ROUND	SECOND ROUND	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
Stephen Hendry (1) / Danny Fowler	Hendry 10-1	Hendry 13-4		
Darren Morgan (16) / Les Dodd	Morgan 10-5			
Nigel Bond (9) / Spencer Dunn	Bond 10-4	Bond 13-7		
Gary Wilkinson (8) / Dean Reynolds	Wilkinson 10-4			
Neal Foulds (5) / Brian Morgan	Foulds 10-5	Foulds 13-7		
Martin Clark (12) / Karl Payne	Clark 10-6			
Alan McManus (13) / Ronnie O'Sullivan	McManus 10-7	McManus 13-11		
Steve Davis (4) / Peter Ebdon	Davis 10-3			
Jimmy White (3) / Joe Swail	White 10-4	White 13-6		
Alain Robidoux (14) / Doug Mountjoy	Mountjoy 10-6			
Dennis Taylor (11) / Tony Drago	Taylor 10-9	Taylor 13-11		
Terry Griffiths (6) / David Roe	Griffiths 10-6			
James Wattana (7) / Tony Jones	Wattana 10-7	Wattana 13-7		
Steve James (10) / John Giles	James 10-2			
Willie Thorne (15) / Shaun Murphy	Thorne 10-6	Parrott 13-9		
John Parrott (2) / Stephen O'Connor	Parrott 10-1			



First round: best of 19 frames. Second round and quarter-finals: best of 25 frames. Semi-finals (April 30-May 1): best of 31 frames. Final (May 2-3): best of 35 frames

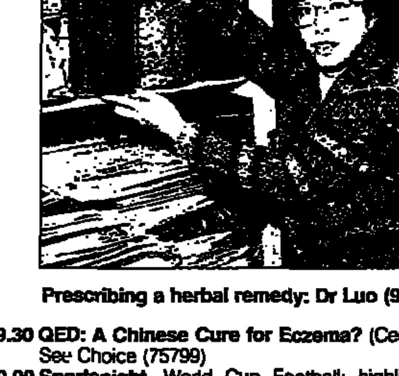
Prize-money this year totals £1 million. Champion: £175,000. Runner-up: £105,000. Losing semi-finalists: £52,000. Losing quarter-finalists: £26,000. Second round losers: £14,000. First round losers: £8,000. Highest break: £14,400

Numbers in brackets denotes seeds

هكذا من الاصل

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast with Paul Burden, Sara Coburn and Heather Payton (97645)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (32730751)
9.05 A Word In Your Ear A test of verbal accuracy chaired by Gordon Burns. The guests are Bill Tidy, Colin Baker, Julie Peasegood and Alison Dowling (s) (1600428) **9.35 King of the Road** Ross King and Anna Walker visit Oxford (s) (6063356)
10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8319645) **10.05 Playdays** For the very young (r) (s) (7721799)
10.30 **Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick.** Weekday magazine series presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. Includes **News** (Ceefax) and weather at **11.00** and **12.00** (88415022)
12.05 Pebble Mill Music and conversation introduced by Judi Spiers (s) (4038732)
12.45 Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick. A review of the morning's events (s) (14524596) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (37683022)
1.00 One O'Clock News with John Tusa (Ceefax) Weather (95954)
1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (11892751) **1.50 Eldorado** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (18359138)
2.20 Racing From Ascot. Julian Wilson introduces live coverage of the 2.30, 3.05 and 3.40 races (s) (8526751)
3.50 Pingu Animated adventures of a clumsy penguin (7942022) **3.55 WildBunch** Nature series for children (s) (2707770) **4.10 Galaxy Goof-Ups.** Cartoon (1722157) **4.35 The Movie Game**. Film and video quiz. (Ceefax) (s) (7901393)
5.00 Newsround (5898312) **5.10 Dodgem** Episode five of the six-part children's drama (r) (Ceefax) (s) (6372003)
5.35 Neighbours (r) *(Ceefax)* (s) (714041) Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) Weather (683)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (935). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Eldorado. (Ceefax) (s) (2954)
7.30 Tomorrow's World The latest news from the world of science and technology (Ceefax) (s) (119)
8.00 Growing Pains Part two of the drama series starring Ray Brooks and Sharon Duce as a couple who snare the ups and downs of fostering. (Ceefax) (s) (457729)
8.50 TV Heroes. Danny Baker looks at the career of *animal man, Johnny Morris (410954)*
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (5645)

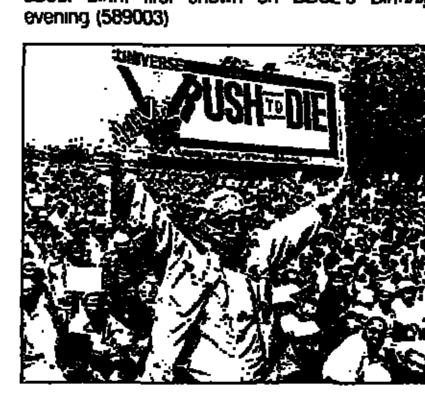


Prescribing a herbal remedy: Dr Luo (9.30pm)

9.30 QED: A Chinese Cure for Eczema? (Ceefax) (s) See Choice (75799)
10.00 Sportsnight. World Cup Football: highlights of England v Holland, Czech/Slovak Republics v Wales, Portugal v Scotland and Spain v Northern Ireland; Snooker, the last quarter-final matches in the Embassy world professional championship; Rugby League: a preview of Saturday's Silk Cup Challenge final between Widnes and Wigan (9225). Northern Ireland: Sportsnight from Northern Ireland
12.00 Weather (5017788). Ends at **12.05am**
2.15-3.45 BBC Select: Accountancy Television. Scrambled (623610) **Legal Network Television.** Scrambled (15233)

BBC2

6.45 Open University The Sassetti Chapel, Santa Trinita (4064428) **7.10** The Enlightenment: Angelica Kauffman, RA (6511515) **7.35** The Albert Memorial (7898645)
8.00 Breakfast News (8601119)
8.15 Westminster A report of yesterday's proceedings in the Lords and the Commons (5614393)
9.00 Daytime On Two Educational programmes including, for children, **9.45 You and Me** (2232022) **11.00 Words and Pictures** (5440480) **1.20 Melvin and Maureen's Music-a-Grams** (s) (93289374) **1.35 Pinny's House** (62670515)
2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **You and Me** (r) (42009515)
2.15 World Snooker Introduced by David Vine and Dougie Donnelly. Quarter-final action in the Embassy world professional championship from the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield. The commentators are Ted Lowe, Jack Karnehm and Clive Everton (s) Included **News** (Ceefax) and weather at **3.00** and **3.50** (73275521). Wales 4.00 World Cup Football. RCS v Wales live from Ostrava
6.00 Star Trek. Classic science fiction adventures starring William Shatner, DeForest Kelley and Leonard Nimoy. In this episode the starship Enterprise encounters a gigantic mechanical monster (r). (Ceefax) (191428)
6.50 DEF II begins with **Rough Guides to Careers**. Ten more career ideas (s) (465664) **7.20 Dance Energy Lift Off.** Amateur pop videos (230225)
7.30 **The Great Picture Trail.** Neil MacGregor, the director of the National Gallery, looks at Titian's *Bacchus and Ariadne* and *Composition with Grey, Red, Yellow and Blue* by Mondrian (Ceefax) (218747)
7.40 **Birth Reports**. A disparate collection of stories about birth, first shown on BBC2's *Birthright* evening (589003)

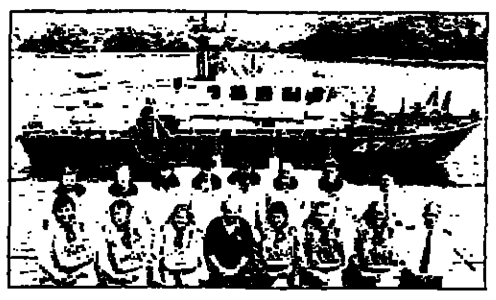


Muslims protest against Rushdie (8.10pm)

8.10 **Living Islam.** *(Ceefax) (s) See Choice (352175)*
9.00 World Snooker. Action from the last two quarter-final matches, introduced by David Vine from Sheffield (s) (4409)
10.00 I, Lovett. Last in the comedy series starring Norman Lovett (s) (36312)
10.30 Newsnight with Sue Cameron (423867)
11.15 Birds of Paradise. In Glasgow, American jazz composer Carla Bey rehearses her new composition for big band and violin, featuring Alex Balanescu, Andy Sheppard, Lew Soloff and Gary Valente (770062)
11.45 The Embrace and Chet's Romance (b/w). Two short films from the worlds of music and dance (515515)
12.00 Weather (5111558)
12.05am Women, Children and Work. Can child care be left to market forces? (3057120). Ends at **12.55**

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CHOICE



The crew of the Salcombe lifeboat (ITV, 7.00pm)

Lifeboat: Shaken . . . Not Stirred
ITV, 7.00pm

A watchable six-part series charts a year in the history of the Salcombe lifeboat in south Devon. The emphasis is on ordinary people performing an extraordinary job. Apart from the coxswain, Frank Smith, all the crew are volunteers. One of the strengths of *Lifeboat* is that it offers the wider picture. We get a glimpse of the crew's personal lives and the tales of heroic rescues are set in the context of a seaside community which depends on tourism and is increasingly populated with incomers. It is a sign of the times that only one of the lifeboat crew was born in the town. But the lifeboat's deeds are not forgotten and the climax to tonight's episode is a 2am call to a burning barge eight miles out to sea.

QED: A Chinese Cure for Eczema?
BBC1, 9.30pm

Desperate eczema sufferers are travelling from all over Britain to a basement room in London's Soho where a Chinese woman doctor prescribes an unorthodox treatment. Dr Luo's remedy is a cocktail of herbs which is drunk like tea. It often seems to work where conventional Western medicine has failed. Dr David Atherton, a skin specialist from Great Ormond Street Hospital, is so impressed that he uses Dr Luo's approach on his own patients. But much of the British medical establishment is sceptical. Critics say the treatment may have serious side-effects and should not be approved until the facts are known. But for Shelley and Lisa, two young eczema victims, a call on Dr Luo could mean the end of years of agony.

Dispatches
Channel 4, 9.00pm

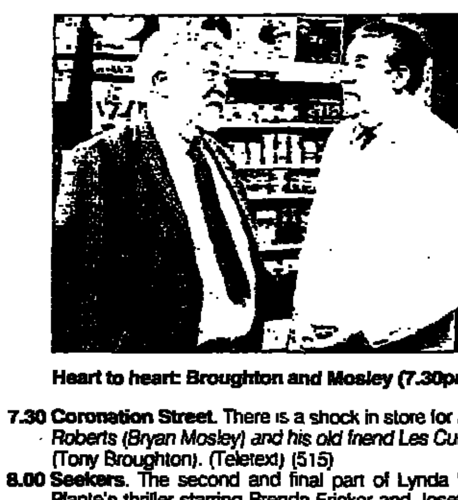
The Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory has been well covered on Western television but Tom Roberts's report throws fresh light on one of its more contentious aspects. The Mistra'arvim are crack undercover units whose soldiers disguise themselves as Arabs and even dress up as woman in order to infiltrate Palestinian communities. The Israeli army says the units are a necessary weapon against insurgents. The Palestinians see them as death squads. Liberal Israeli opinion is concerned that the units are operating outside the law and infringing civil liberties. To make its contribution to the debate the film follows commando teams on dangerous missions into Gaza and observes their operations at close hand.

Living Islam: Struggling With Modernity
BBC2, 8.10pm

The first two programmes in the series about the Muslim religion tended to stick to the facts and seek shelter in history. With number three the big contemporary questions can no longer be avoided. The theme is the attempt to balance the traditions of Islam with the demands of the modern world. Indonesia, where modernism has been embraced, is contrasted with Iran and its attempt to go back to pure Islam. This takes us to the Salman Rushdie affair. The approach is to explain rather than to judge. The point is neatly put by a Muslim academic based in the United States. He says that while in the West you can abuse Christ but not a fellow human being, in the Islamic world God comes first. **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV The guests include Ruth Madoc and Gary Moore (7450225)
9.25 Lucky Ladders Word game show hosted by Lennie Bennett (s) (7893935) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7707119)
10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . Topical discussion programme (4419157)
10.35 This Morning Weekday magazine presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes Loyd Grossman on a gastronomic tour between Normandy and the Côte d'Azur and legal advice from Nicola Charles. With national and international news at **10.55** and regional news at **11.55** followed by national weather (88409461)
12.10 Allsorts Young children's entertainment (8075119)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (2172585) **1.05 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (93204683)
1.15 Home and Away Australian family drama serial. (Teletext) (186848) **1.45 A Country Practice.** Medical drama serial set in the Australian outback (s) (185119)
2.15 A Day in the Life Desmond Wilcox goes behind the scenes at London's Victoria Station (r) (s) (100428)
2.45 World Cup Football. Ian St John introduces live coverage of the Group 3 qualifying game in Dublin between the Republic of Ireland and Denmark. The commentators are Brian Moore and Ron Atkinson (66767428)
4.50 Scooby Doo Cartoon (6412935) **5.10 Home and Away** (r). (Teletext) (1046634)
5.40 Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (331867)
6.00 London Tonight presented by Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster (Teletext) (56022)
7.00 Lifeboat (s). See Choice (7022)

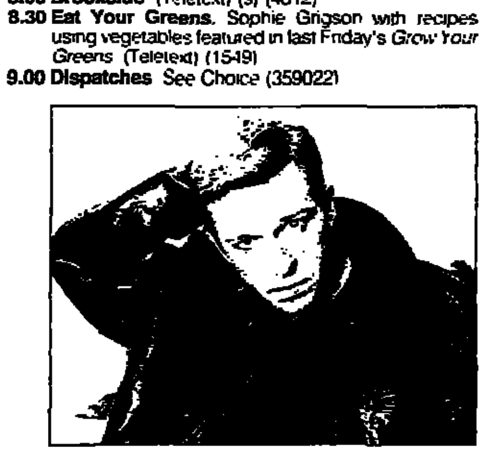


Heart to heart: Broughton and Mosley (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. There is a shock in store for Alf *Roberts (Bryan Mosley) and his old friend Les Curry* (Tony Broughton). (Teletext) (515)
8.00 Seekers. The second and final part of Lynda La Plante's thriller starring Brenda Fricker and Josette Simon. (Teletext) (s) (5515)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (30138) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (650729)
10.40 The Big Fight. Live coverage from Dublin of the WBC featherweight championship bout between Britain's Paul Hodkinson, his fourth defence of the title, and Gregorio Vargas of Mexico. The commentators are Reg Gutteridge and Jim Watt. Plus World Cup football and rugby union action from tonight's Rosslyn Park Sevens tournament (12310206)
12.35am The Equalizer. McCall helps a designer whose invention has been stolen by the ruthless head of a big corporation. Starring Edward Woodward (2674558)
1.30 Entertainment UK. Weekly leisure-time guide (s) (55726)
2.30 America's Top Ten (s) (46374)
3.00 The Little Picture Show Film and video reviews presented by Mariella Frostrup (r) (45349)
4.00 60 Minutes. American news magazine (r) (89271)
5.00 Riviera. French drama serial about the aristocratic de Courcey family (42320)
5.30 ITN Morning News (64981). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.15 I Love Lucy (b/w). Classic American comedy series starring Lucille Ball (78138) **6.45 Spiff and Hercules.** Cat and dog cartoon (3253645)
7.00 The Big Breakfast presented by Chris Evans and Gaby Roslin (85577)
9.00 You Bet Your Life Game show hosted by Bill Cosby (s) (40515)
9.30 Schools (812119)
12.00 The Parliament Programme Ann Perkins with a round-up of news from both Houses (20751)
12.30 Sesame Street Early learning series (r) (83409) **1.30 Chicken Minute.** Children's puppet series (47916)
2.00 Film: A Tale of Two Cities (1935, b/w) starring Ronald Colman, Basil Rathbone, Elizabeth Allan and Edna May Oliver. A superior adaptation of Charles Dickens's classic historical drama set in London and Paris at the time of the French Revolution. Directed by Jack Conway. (Teletext) (67954190)
4.15 Linesman A wordless short about the life of a football linesman (5318683)
4.30 Fifteen To One Fast-moving general knowledge quiz presented by William G Stewart (Teletext) (s) (428)
5.00 Call Waiting American director Jim Hunter's short about a young woman waiting for the result of a job interview (9405428)
5.15 Film: Anatomy of an Illness (1984) starring Edward Asner, Eli Wallach, Millie Perkins and David Ogden Stiers. A made-for-television drama, based on fact, about a newspaper editor who decided to fight back with an unconventional medical regimen after being struck down by a degenerative bone disease. Directed by Richard T Heffron (43578515)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (728916)
7.50 Party Political Comment by a Labour party politician (388596)
8.00 Brookside (Teletext) (s) (4312)
8.30 Eat Your Greens. Sophie Grigson with recipes using vegetables featured in last Friday's *Grow Your Greens* (Teletext) (1549)
9.00 Dispatches See Choice (359022)



Orgy of destruction: Sean Pertwee (9.45pm)

9.45 He-Play, She-Play: The Last Laugh, by Rebecca Frayn. Starring Sean Pertwee and Joanna Roth. Fraser is convinced that his girlfriend is being unfaithful and goes on a bizarre orgy of destruction (s) (183799)
10.00 The Golden Palace. Comedy spin-off from *The Golden Girls*. Rose, Blanche and Sophia now run a Miami hotel. (Teletext) (s) (21480)
10.30 Viva Cabaret! The third of seven variety shows (816428)
11.20 E.N.G: Force of Reason. Canadian drama series about a television newsgathering team. This week Hildebrandt is attacked in the car park and is convinced it was a director she had reprimanded. But proving it turns out to be difficult and the ordeal becomes a nightmare of intimidation. (Teletext) (s) (395645)
12.20am Moviewatch. Edinburgh cinema-goers review the latest releases (r) (s) (2893523)
12.50 Film: Amar Deep (1979) starring Rajesh Khanna and Vinod Mehra. A Hindi drama of riches, love, generosity and jealousy. Directed by K. Vijayan-R-Krishnamurthy (98951078). Ends at **3.55**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 2.15pm-2.45 Gardening Time (100428) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (1046634) **6.00** Home and Away (111206) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (381747) **12.40am** Film: Fiend Without a Face (1480542) **2.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (91287) **2.30** 60 Minutes (9180252) **3.20** The New Music (7035252) **4.30** Riviera (88610) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (42320)

BORDER
As London except: 2.15pm-2.45 Gardening Time (100428) **6.00** Lookaround (751) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (913) **12.40am** Film: Fiend Without a Face (1480542) **2.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (91287) **2.30** 60 Minutes (9180252) **3.20** The New Music (7035252) **4.30** Riviera (88610) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (42320)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.15pm A Country Practice (186848) **1.45** Home and Away (185119) **2.15-2.45** Gardening Time (100428) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (1046634) **6.00** Home and Away (111206) **6.25-7.00** Central News (381747) **12.35am** Tour of Duty (2674558) **1.30** Film: Blondie's Reward (1483542) **2.45** Entertainment UK (624349) **3.45** BPM (613233) **4.45** Jobfinder (4422252) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (6742691)

GRANADA
As London except: 1.15pm A Country Practice (186848) **1.45** Home and Away (18356041) **2.10-2.45** Yan Can Cook (4160525) **5.10-5.40** Billy (1046634) **6.00** Home and Away (751) **6.30-7.00** Granada Tonight (913) **12.40am** Film: Fiend Without a Face (1480542) **2.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (91287) **2.30** 60 Minutes (9180252) **3.20** The New Music (7035252) **4.30** Riviera (88610) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (42320)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.45pm Blockbusters (185119) **2.15-3.45** Gardening Time (100428) **6.00** HTV News (751) **6.30-7.00** Midweek (913) **12.40am** Film: Fiend Without a Face (1480542) **2.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (91287) **2.30** 60 Minutes (9180252) **3.20** The New Music (7035252) **4.30** Riviera (88610) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00pm Wales at Six **6.30-7.00** Materral World

MERIDIAN
As London except: 2.15pm-2.45 Loud and Clear (100428) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (751) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (913) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (42320)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 2.15pm-2.45 Yan Can Cook (100428) **6.00** Tyne Tees Today (751) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (913) **12.35pm** Darts (2674558) **1.30** American Gladiators (2645455) **2.20** Hollywood Report (2214639) **2.50** Videofashion (8179349) **3.20** Music Box (9402558) **4.20-5.30** Jobfinder (5313788)

ULSTER
As London except: 6.00pm-7.00 UTV Live at Six (58022) **12.40am** Film: Fiend Without a Face (1486368) **2.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (91287) **2.30** 60 Minutes (9180252) **3.20** The New Music (7035252) **4.30** Riviera (88610) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (42320)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 2.15pm-2.45 Westcountry Focus (100428) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (58022) **12.40am** Film: Fiend Without a Face (Marshall Thompson, Terence Kilburn) (1480542) **2.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (91287) **2.30** 60 Minutes (9180252) **3.20** The New Music (7035252) **4.30** Riviera (88610) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (42320)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 2.15pm-2.45 Yan Can Cook (100428) **5.55** Calendar (7094611) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (913) **1.30am** American Gladiators (2645455) **2.20** Hollywood Report (2214639) **2.50** Videofashion (8179349) **3.20** Music Box (9402558) **4.20-5.30** Jobfinder (5313788)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (85577) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (40515) **9.30** Ysgolion (812119) **12.00** The Parliament Programme (20751) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (48645) **1.00** Fifteen To One (88664) **1.30** A Different World (18366428) **1.55** Lillian Gish (1785577) **2.55** Film: The Wind (2444288) **4.25** Slot 23 (7954867) **4.55** Pel-Droed: Cwpan Y Byd '94 (78575374) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (5864) **7.30** Anifeiliaid Aruthrol (157) **8.00** Snwcer (4312) **8.30** News (254225) **8.55** The Crystal Maze (736461) **9.55** Brookside (718409) **10.25** Film: Good Morning Vietnam (47812751) **12.45** Our Backyard (21894) **1.15** Close

RTE 1
Starts: 11.40 Oireachtas Report (74917732) **12.00** News (64235022) **12.05** Santa Barbara (78951515) **12.30** Olscoil (3784732) **1.00** News (2819954) **1.30** Aerial Financial Pages (23575577) **1.35** The Beerhunter (11960732) **2.00** Testament of Youth (8675461) **3.00** Live at Three (2808119) **4.00** News (76907374) **4.05** Night Singers (49414374) **4.35** The Big Race (77134954) **6.00** The Angelus (1696374) **6.01** Six-One (3792751) **7.00** Cartoon Time (7007916) **7.05** Jake and the Fatman (8018664) **8.00** Spirit of Trees (3245206) **8.25** Keeping Up Appearances (7166041) **9.00** News (2816138) **9.30** The Birthday Show (3704596) **10.00** Writer in Profile (1166849) **10.30** Marketplace

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (24012954) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (5611003) **9.10** Cartoons (5736206) **9.30** The Pyramid Game (84461) **10.00** Strike It Rich (4540799) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (2128898) **10.30** Concentration (55461) **11.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (93645) **11.30** Falcon Crest (80799) **12.30pm** E Street (95577) **1.00** Another World (6807003) **1.45** Santa Barbara (732041) **2.15** Sally Jessy Raphael (401954) **3.15** Different Strokes (720206) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (4487206) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (3225) **6.00** Games World (7751) **6.30** E Street (8003) **7.00** Rescue (4954) **7.30** Family Ties (7515) **8.00** Hunter (42409) **9.00** LA Law (22645) **10.00** In Living Color (70770) **10.30** Star Trek: The Next Generation (78732) **11.30** Studs (12157) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (74206) **6.30** News and Business Report (401312) **9.30** ABC Nightline (88041) **10.30** Fashion TV (44119) **11.30** International Business Report (71041) **12.30pm** News and Business Report (48935) **1.30** Good Morning America (49664) **2.30** Parliament Live (75206) **3.30** Parliament Live (75577) **4.30** News and Business Report (4428) **5.00** Live at Five (54003) **6.30** News and Business Report (83225) **7.30** Fashion TV (5157) **10.30** Nightline (76374) **11.30** ABC News (62683) **12.30am** Fashion TV (14207) **1.30** ABC News (75558) **2.30** Those Were The Days (98558) **3.30** ABC News (97875) **4.30** Beyond 2000 (22900) *5.30-6.00 ABC News (13815)*

SKY MOVIES PLUS
6.00am Showcase (6406886)
10.00 Life Stinks (1991). Mel Brooks spends a month on the streets (99393)
12.00 Pieces of Dreams (1991): Social worker Lauren Hutton and priest Robert Forster fall in love (98577)
2.00pm Skullduggery (1970): Archaeologists Burt Reynolds and Susan Clark *discover a tribe of pygmies (49312)*
4.00 Grand Larceny (1988) Marilu Henner learns how to steal (8157)
6.00 Life Stinks (as 10am) (36848)
8.00 Hoodwinked (1990): Robert Mitchum mistakenly decides to trust former adversary Ernest Borgnine (31393)
10.00 Harley Davidson and the Marlboro Man (1991) Mickey Rourke and Don Johnson plan a bank heist (498577)
11.40 Naked Tango (1991) Erotic drama set in 1920s Buenos Aires (436157)
1.15am Screwballs (1983): High-school sex comedy (1204523)
2.35 Lean on Me (1989): Morgan Freeman as a tough inner-city teacher (865148)
4.20 Alligator 2 — The Mutation (1990): Monster yarn (629388). Ends at **5.55**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde (1941, b/w): Spencer Tracy develops a split personality (10848)
8.00 Class of '44 (1973): Sequel to *Summer of '42* about high school graduates (15393)
10.00 Saint Jack (1979): Ben Gazzara *becomes a pimp in Singapore (292134).* Ends at **11.45**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Saboteur (1942, b/w). *A munitions worker is accused of sabotage (34886)*
8.00 Sinbad of the Seven Seas (1989): Swashbuckling adventure (82616)
10.00 The Pink Panther Strikes Again (1976): Peter Sellers as Inspector Clouseau pursues an insane Herbert Lom (97935)
12.00 Flight to Tangier (1953). Joan Fontaine searches for stolen loot (96119)
2.00pm A Challenge for Robin Hood (1967): With Barrie Ingham (47954)
4.00 Sinbad of the Seven Seas (as 8am) *(6796)*
6.00 The Pink Panther (1964): Peter Sellers pursues jewel thief David Niven (27190)
8.00 Memories of Midnight (1991) Jane Seymour plays an amnesiac whose past life returns to haunt her (39935)
10.00 **Dance with Death** (1991). A reporter goes undercover as a dancer (755374)
11.35 Somebody Has to Shoot the Picture (1990) A gangster hires Roy Scheider to film his execution (916683)
1.25am The Chequered Flag (1991) William Campbell and Rob Estes play romantic rivals (340558)
3.00 Havana (1990) Gambler Robert Redford falls in love with Lena Olin, wife of Cuban revolutionary Raul Julia (98203271). Ends at **5.20**

SKY SPORTS
6.30am Morning Stretch (38119) **7.00** Trucks 'n' Tractor (65751) **7.30** Motor World (84886) **8.00** Muscle Night (12041) **9.00** Morning Stretch (83683) **9.30** The Footballers' Football Show (20041) **10.30** Red Line (38577) **11.30** Morning Stretch (34916) **12.00** Watersports (15770) **1.00pm** Under 21's Football: England v Holland (33664) **3.00** The Footballers' Football Show (38732) **4.00** German League Football (5461) **6.00** Soccer News (890461) **6.03** Drag Racing (2867) **6.30** World Cup Football, Norway v Turkey, England v Holland (1130916) **10.30** Ringside (77190) **12.30-2.30am** World Cup Football: England v Holland (43691)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (79954) **8.00** Eurofun (95428) **8.30** Rugby Sevens (72935) **10.00** Ice Hockey (50521) **12.00** Eurogoals (17138) **1.00pm** Athletics (26886) **2.00** Ice Hockey (7206) **2.30** Ice Hockey (926886) **5.00** Basketball (23157) **6.30** News (1515) **7.00** *Ice Hockey (628732)* **9.30** *Motor Racing* (10954) **10.30** Football 1994 World Cup (64916) **12.00-12.30am** News (47252)

UK GOLD
6.00am Rainbow (12270664) **6.15** Jamie and the Magic Torch (12275119) **6.30** Jem (6717770) **7.00** Flash Gordon (3469770) **7.30** Neighbours (3455577) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (1894206) **8.30** EastEnders (1893577) **9.00** The Bill (1817157) **9.30** One by One (5667480) **10.30** Big Deal (6351022) **11.30** No Place Like Home (1388206) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (1897393) **12.30pm** Neighbours (9233428) **1.00** EastEnders (3468041) **1.30** The Bill (9232799) **2.00** Father, Dear Father (7950596) **2.30** Rings on Their Fingers (7742206) **3.00** Dallas (1382022) **4.00** Dynasty (1301157) **5.00** Blankety Blank (7941848) **5.30** Give Us a Clue (7447454) **6.00** Neighbours (6392765) **6.30** One by One (3226409) **7.30** Father, Dear Father (4162291) **8.00** EastEnders (7930732) **8.30** Rings on Their Fingers (7959867) **9.00** Big Deal (9282886) **10.00** *The Bill (1898022)* **10.30** *Mornin' Sarge* (1807770) **11.00** The Kenny Everett Television Show (1302886) **11.30** Dr Who: Carnival of Monsters (6704206) **12.00** Film: Variety Jubilee (1942, b/w) (9380252) **1.30-2.00am** Video Bites (1074097)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Jack in the Box (44515) **7.00** RatKan II (93393) **9.00** Jack in the Box (83428) **11.00** Stories Without Words (99867) **11.30** Say Ahhh! (90596) **12.00** Secret Valley (57770) **1.00pm** Jack in the Box (33190) **2.00** Stories Without Words (5480) **2.30** Say Ahhh! (4480) **3.00** Bobobobs (4515) **3.30** RatKan II (20596) **5.00** Katts and Dog (6732) **5.30** Saved by the Bell (5596) **6.00** Fame (53954)

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University: Issues in *Information Technology*
6.55 Weather
7.00 On Air, with Andrew Lyle including Handel (Coronation Anthem No 1, Zadok the Priest), Schumann (Introduction and Allegro appassionato in G, Op 92): Walton (Overture, Portsmouth Point): Bizet (Symphony in C)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Hummel: Piano Sonata in F minor (Ian Hobson, piano); Partita in E flat (Collegium Musicum Prague); Nocturne, Theme and Variations, Op 99 (Yaara Tal and Andreas Groethuysen, piano duet)
10.00 Midweek Choice, presented by Susan Sharpe. Barber (Adagio for Strings: Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under Neville Marriner); Dvořák (American Suite: Royal Liverpool PO under Libor Pesek); Ives, orch Adams (Serenity: Dawn Upshaw, soprano; Orchestra of St Luke's under John Adams); Hanson (Symphony No 1, Nordic: Seattle Symphony under Gerard Schwarz); Offenbach (Les belles américaines: Boston Pops Orchestra under Arthur Fiedler); arr Copland (Five Old American Songs. Marilyn Horne, mezzo; ECO under Carl Davis); Barber (Violin Concerto: Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg; LSO under Maxim Shostakovich)
12.00 Great Masters Restored: Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment under Charles Mackerras performs Mendelssohn's Overture, Scherzo, Nocturne, Wedding March, A Midsummer Night's Dream: Symphony No 4 in A, Italian (r) **1.00pm News**
1.05 Birmingham Lunchtime Concert: Lars Vogt, piano, plays Liszt (Ballade No 2 in B minor); Schumann (Kreisleriana, Op 16)
2.00 Record Review (r)
3.30 From Death to Life: Dyson (Concerto leggiero: Eric Parkin, piano; City of London Sinfonia under Richard Hickox)
4.00 Choral Evensong, live from the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge
5.00 In Tune, with Andrew Green
7.30 Ulisse: BBC Singers; BBC *Symphony Orchestra under* Andrew Davis perform Luigi Dallapiccola's opera on the Ulysses myth. Sung in Italian. With Alan Opie in the title role, Phyllis Bryn-Julson as Calypso and Penelope, Christine Whittlesey as Nausicaa, Norman Bailey as King Alcinous, Sarah Walker as Circe and Melantho and *Elizabeth Laurence as Anticlea*
10.00 Porter's Return: Andrew Porter compares British festivals with those held in the United States
10.10 Orpheus with His Lute: Konrad Junghänel, lute, plays Weiss (Prelude and Fugue in D minor); Gallot (Tombeau de M la Prince de Condé), Weiss (Suite in G minor) (r)
10.45 Night Waves, *presented by* Roy Porter, including an interview with Ernst Gombrich
11.30 Haydn's Late Chamber Works: Fifth of six programmes. Piano Trio in E minor, H XV 12 (Andras Schiff, piano, Yuuko Shiokawa, violin, Steven Isserlis, cello); Piano Sonata in C, H XVI 48 (Andras Schiff, piano), String Quartet in D, Op 76 No 5 *(Takacs Quartet)*
12.30-12.35am News
1.00-2.25 Night School (except in Scotland, as Radio 5 at 9am)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** *News Briefing, incl* **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Midweek, with Libby Purves and Brian Hayes
10.00-10.30 Still Lives (FM only): *Harry Thompson meets people* who live in the house where they were born. In the first of six programmes, he visits 75-year-old Eileen Halliday at her Gloucestershire cottage
10.00 News; Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Something Understood (LW only): A selection of poetry on the theme of love. Read by *Paul Scofield, Brid Brennan,* David Holt and Alison Reid
10.30 Woman's Hour: Jenni Murray talks to Diana Brooks, the new president of Sotheby's. Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time: Visitors to the International Spring Gardening Fair at Wembley put their questions to the experts (r)
12.00 News; *You and Yours*, with Linda Lewis
12.25pm The Age of Innocence, by Edith Wharton. The third of six parts **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; The Head Man. See Choice
2.47 Treasure Islands: Michael Rosen meets the writer and illustrator Judith Kerr (r)
3.00 News; The Reckoning: Back to Sione. The Rev Colin Morris looks at the Africanisation of missions, and tells the story of *Alice Lenshina (r)*
3.42 The World of Anthony Trollope: In the last of six programmes, Richard Mullen considers 19th-century travel through the eyes of the author
4.00 News
4.05 Kaleidoscope. Mark Steyn considers possible endings to Charles Dickens's unfinished novel, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood; and he explores the* fascination with nuns in popular culture, from *The Sound of Music* to ITV's drama serial, *Body and Soul*
4.45 Short Story: An Adventure in Bed, by Stacy Aumonier. Read by John Baddeley
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Counterpoint. *The final (r)*
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Tales from Oz. See Choice
7.45 All in the Mind: Professor Anthony Clare considers the possible psychological effects of video-phones, and reports on life in the psychiatric unit at Withington Hospital (r)
8.15 Greek as a Treat, presented by Peter France (r)
8.45 In Business: A Town on the Turn. Peter Day examines how the once prosperous town of Newbury in Berkshire is coping in the recessionary nineties
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight, with Roger White **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Love on a Branch Line, by John Hadfield. Read by Michael Cochrane (3/10)
11.00 Dear Diary. Simon Brett with diary extracts for April 23 (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

CHOICE

The Head Man: The Real World. *Radio 4, 2.00pm.*
Being both playwright and teacher, Jonathan Smith is just the man to have penned this linked quartet of school-orientated plays. These tangles of crises of the personal and academic sort demand much skilful unravelling if credibility is not to be strained to snapping point. Fortunately, this is a danger that never happens in *The Real World.* The play is a cunningly planted minefield through which the central character, a deeply troubled headmaster (Steve Hodson), has somehow to find a way.

Tales from Oz. *Radio 4, 7.20pm.*
The gulf that can separate surgeons from medical students does not exist between the Australian Michael Long and *his* students. He takes them back to the family farm to feed and tutor them. About his work, he says: "I know my way around the human body". No surprises there. But reporter David Wright learns that Long also knows his way around the psychology of sickness. He holds his patients' hands, learns wisdom from their dying words, and usually operates to the accompaniment of Mozart. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes (FM only) **6.00** Simon Mayo **9.00** Simon Bates **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jakki Brambles **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **6.00** News '93 **6.30** Mark Goodier's Evening Session **8.30** The Steve Edwards Soul Show **10.00** Nicky Campbell **12.00-4.00am** Bob Harris (FM)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.05** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Andrew Neil **2.00pm** Debbie Thrower **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Jim Lloyd with *Folk on 2* **8.00** *Mike Harding with The Albion Band in concert* **8.30** Celtic Horizons (3/7) **9.00** Fandango, Flamenco and Fiesta (3/7) **9.30** Nigel Ogden: The Organist Entertains **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until **7.00pm. 6.00am** World Service Newshour **6.30** Danny Baker's Morning Edition **9.00** Schools: Topic Resources 7-9; **9.15** Dance Workshop; **9.35** Verse Universe; **9.45** Time and Tune; **10.05** Drama Workshop **10.25** Wiggly Park **10.30** Johnnie Walker with The AM Alternative **12.30pm** Education Matters **1.00** News Update **1.10** BFBS Worldwide **2.30** Football, Republic of Ireland v Denmark, **4.45** RCS (formerly Czechoslovakia) v Wales **7.00** Sportsdesk **7.15** Ghostly Tales for Ghastly Kids, by Jamie Rix. Read by Nigel Planer **7.30** Trevor Brooking's Football Night: England v Holland **10.10** Hit the North **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin, Tips für Touristen **5.30** Londres Matin **6.00** World News **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** World News **7.15** The World Today **7.30** Meridian **8.00** Newsdesk **8.30** Development 93 **9.00** World News **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** Pop the Question **9.30** Quote, Unquote **10.00** World News **10.05** World Business Report **10.15** Country Style **10.30** Sound Business **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News Summary **11.01** Omnibus **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **11.59** Business Update **Noon** Newsdesk **12.30pm** Meridian **1.00** World News **1.10** Words of Faith **1.15** New Ideas **1.35** Whatever Happened To ... **1.45** Sports Roundup **2.00** Newshour **3.00** World News **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Off the Shelf: Father and Son **3.45** Good Books **4.00** World News **4.15** BBC English **4.29** News Headlines in French **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** World News **5.10** News About Britain **5.15** BBC English **5.30** Londres Soir **6.00** World News **6.05** World Business Report **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.05** German Features **8.00** World News **8.05** Outlook **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** The World Today **9.30** Assignment **10.00** News **11.10** News About Britain **11.15** Sports International **11.45** Sports Roundup **Midnight** News **12.05am** World Business Report **12.15** From Our Own Correspondent **12.30** Multitrack 2 **1.00** Newsdesk **1.30** Two Cheers for April **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Waveguide **2.40** Book Choice **2.45** The Farming World **3.00** Newsdesk **3.30** Sports International **4.00** News **4.10** News About Britain **4.15** Sports Roundup

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Delius (Violin Concerto: Tasmin Little) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Classic Reports with Margaret Howard **7.00** Book Browse with John Russell **8.00** Classic FM Concert: The London Chamber Orchestra under Christopher Warren-Green performs Mozart (Divertimento in F), J S Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 3); Vivaldi (The Four Seasons, Winter) **10.00** Adrian Love **1.00-6.00am** Robert Booth

FREQUENCIES: RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM-88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM-90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. **GLR:** 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM-100-102.

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SPORT

WEDNESDAY APRIL 28 1993

RFU finds breaches of amateurism are rife

Peter Bills looks at the severe measures proposed to prevent abuse of rugby union's principles by financial benefits to players

THE amateur ethos of rugby union, the sacred element at the heart of its structure, has been found to be permeated with abuse in breach of the sport's rules, a Rugby Football Union (RFU) report has concluded.

The report, circulating within senior English clubs, has forced the RFU to confront a situation it denied existed to any serious extent. It reveals numerous illustrations of disregard for the amateur principles which officials at Twickenham insisted had more to do with imagination than reality.

A working party set up by the RFU to investigate growing allegations of financial benefits for amateur players has found the claims to be substantially true. Its report, *Inducements to move, incentives to stay and other illegal payments*, says: "We believe that the greatest current threats to amateurism come from inducements and other illegal payments." It says many examples of such payments have been received and produces a "brief but not exhaustive" list.

The list reveals the ways in which so-called amateur players have received monies and inducements to play rugby union. They arise through excessive expenses, cars, after-dinner speaking, fictitious employment, cash playing bonuses, clothing, fictitious expenses, housing-mortgage support, writing rugby articles, appearance money, overseas trips, luxury items, free or subsidised accommodation, car passenger expenses, fictitious appearances, sponsorship, holidays and family support. Virtually every means by which clubs have defied the amateur rules are included.

The working party, which first met in January, has received "very valuable help and advice" in preparing the report from senior figures, including Peter Ford, the chairman of Gloucester, Tony Russ, Leicester's director of coaching, Neil Hannah and Alwynne Evans, respectively the chairman and secretary of the Senior Clubs Association, Barrie Corless, Northampton's director of coaching, and Rob Smith, the Wasps club coach. The report says that all supported the fundamental principles of no financial benefits for playing and money correctly raised from off-the-field activities to be kept within the game.

The recommended speed of implementation of the new regulations reflects the concern. The report suggests that they should start on July 9, a month after a proposed meeting with the senior clubs. That suggests a peremptory dismissal of any protests from the clubs about lack of warning. The working party feels that those who have flouted the laws of the game can expect little consideration. The recommendations are set to be approved by the full committee of the RFU on Friday and some proposed measures will bring furious protest.

Mileage allowance rates, one of the favoured methods of putting money into players' pockets, is to be set at 20 pence per mile, below present rates. A meal allowance of no more than £20 a day will be paid only on the production of receipts. Proof will also be required by receipt if the costs of overnight accommodation are to be met. Bed and breakfast can be charged only if authorised by the club treasurer.

There is also a clampdown on the use of motor cars by players, a long-employed method of "rewarding" players who change clubs. Hiring a car will be accepted only if economic to both the club and player and has been authorised by the club treasurer. Providing a player with a car for a season or unspecified period of time is to be banned.

It is impossible to estimate how much money players have received in breach of the rules from clubs. Although outlawed under the game's strict laws of amateurism, infringements have become increasingly widespread.

Now, the working party has recommended a checklist of permitted and non-permitted activities for material benefit. But it says they are for players below the international squad. This suggests three fears: first, of becoming involved in debate with the International Rugby Board (IRB), which has less stringent regulations concerning amateurism: second, of being dragged into litigation by current internationals and third, that the abuse is increasingly widespread and affecting players outside the top echelons, notably at junior club level.

The onus will be on clubs to adhere, with the warning of severe penalties for those that fail to supply requested information.

Recommendations, page 38



Sure shot: Gascoigne, watched by his England team-mates, demonstrates the art of striking the ball cleanly during the build-up to Wembley. Photograph: Simon Walker

England must respect Dutch skill

BY ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THE talking is mercifully over; at Wembley tonight, the two nations expected to dominate World Cup qualifying group two, England and Holland, must put action first.

Paul Gascoigne, in declaring himself fit and ready to show the Dutch his football, erred when he said on Monday that England must show the opposition no respect. If he meant no fear, fair enough; but respect them England must.

England are playing a country that, through Gullit, Rijkaard and van Basten, has transplanted its culture into Italy, turning sterility there into spontaneity.

Though van Basten is one of five injured and absent Dutchmen, if they approach their best at Wembley, the choices Graham Taylor has made will undoubtedly trigger the barrackers in the crowd. One doubts those people have the sensitivity to appreciate good football from England, let alone from the visitors.

But some of us admire Holland, neighbours from the same hemisphere and a similar climate able and willing to encourage more freedom, more individuality. The Dutch at their best still hold a candle to spontaneity that some horrible English coaching has all but snuffed out.

Watching and listening while the two camps have been at work, one is bound to observe that Dick Advocaat, an interim coach for Holland, has been the more positive. He will choose to attack the wide expanses of Wembley with two wingers — Ruud Gullit, on the right, and Marc Overmars, 20, on the left.

The flanks will be a key area, not the least because, with Pearce and Dorigo hurt, Taylor has opted for Martin Keown, his former centre back at Aston Villa, at left back. The manager's observation that Keown is the best defensive marker England possess may be valid, but whether he can cope with a resurgent Gullit is another matter.

Having passed 30, Gullit's pride has been hurt by insinuations that his prime may never be seen again. When he takes Keown wide on to the touchline, when he opens that devouring nine-foot stride and uses his bewildering deception on the defender, one assumes John Barnes has been alerted to help the stand-in full back.

Taylor is at pains to say that he could not allow the boo-boys to dictate his selection for him. So Barnes is in and neither Waddle nor Merson are allowed to show that their form of late has been demonstrably more vibrant.

What happens if Barnes tracks back? He takes with him Aron Winter, the Gascoigne's team-mate at Lazio, and takes Winter closer to the England goal, where he should thrive.

The other flank will also be interesting. The Dutch are delighted about the speed of Overmars, whose low centre of gravity gives him bewitching balance. It may be that Dixon is the more pressed full back, particularly if Rob Witschge advances, as is his custom.

However, two equally intriguing confrontations might settle affairs in the centre of the field. Gascoigne will no doubt advance behind Platt and Ferdinand, hoping and expecting to express himself in space. Jan Wouters, the new Holland captain, will be waiting for him.

Every Dutch player who has come up against Wouters will tell you that he is miscast as the ugly duckling, the bandy-legged misfit among the beauties of Dutch midfield play. Yet his attention will almost exclusively be given to putting Gascoigne off his game.

At the other end of the field, playing in the shadows, as he likes, will be Dennis Bergkamp, who Platt regards as "probably the most complete Dutchman of his time".

Advocaat operates a more sensitive management than Taylor. He seeks out his senior players, allows them to tell him how much freedom and strategic responsibility they think they can exercise and then, if it suits his plan, he allows it.

Therefore, after training two different ways last weekend to gauge where best to exploit Bergkamp's talents, he will opt for him in that no-man's area between midfield and attack.

Crucial to England's attempt to fulfil Taylor's command, that they should dictate tempo and pace, will be Carlton Palmer. It will be his job to get into the areas that Bergkamp hopes to exploit, to carry out Taylor's assertion that: "We are reluctant to let the opposition have it easy. The present England side are good at that."

Good may not be enough. Holland accept that defeat for them might be terminal to their World Cup hopes in a group where Norway — playing against Turkey tonight — are the front-runners and Poland have barely started.

With American World Cup organisers at Wembley, one thinks of the Wouters-Gascoigne contest and the American cliche: No pain, no gain.

GROUP TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norway	4	3	1	0	15	2	7
England	4	3	1	0	13	1	7
Holland	5	3	1	1	15	5	7
Poland	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Turkey	7	1	1	5	6	14	3
San Marino	6	0	1	5	1	26	1

RESULTS: Norway 10, San Marino 0; Norway 2, Holland 1; Poland 1, Turkey 0; San Marino 0, Norway 2; Holland 2, Poland 2; England 1, Norway 1; Turkey 4, San Marino 1; England 4, Turkey 0; Turkey 1, Holland 3; England 6, San Marino 0; Holland 3, Turkey 1; San Marino 0, Turkey 0; Holland 6, San Marino 0; Turkey 0, England 2

FIXTURES: Today: England v Holland, Norway v Turkey, Poland v San Marino. May 19: San Marino v Poland. May 29: Poland v England. Jun 2: Norway v England. Jun 9: Holland v Norway. Sept 8: England v Poland. Sept 22: San Marino v Holland, Norway v Poland. Oct 13: Holland v England, Poland v Norway. Oct 27: Turkey v Poland. Nov 10: Turkey v Norway. Nov 16: San Marino v England. Nov 17: Poland v Holland

More money on offer at Wimbledon

BY ALIX RAMSAY

PRIZE-MONEY

Men's singles: Winner: £305,000; runner-up £152,500; losing semi-finalists £76,250. Men's doubles (per pair): Winners: £124,960; runners-up £62,480; losing semi-finalists £32,060. Women's singles: Winner: £275,000; runner-up £137,500; losing semi-finalists £68,720. Women's doubles (per pair): Winners: £108,100; runners-up: £54,050; losing semi-finalists: £25,650. Mixed doubles (per pair): Winners: £53,000; runners-up £26,510; semi-finalists £13,260

THE prize-money at the Wimbledon tennis championships will break £5 million for the first time this year. The competitors are in line for a 14 per cent pay rise, with the men's champion picking up a cheque for £305,000 for his two weeks' work.

This year marks the hundredth women's championship and while the women, too, will benefit from an increase in prize-money, there is still no sign of them catching up with the men. Last year, Steffi Graf won £240,000: this year, the champion will take home £275,000.

Although the All England Club is planning celebrations to record the landmark in women's tennis, equal pay was never under consideration as one of them. "The women's game is improving all the time," John Curry, chairman of the club, said. "But like most women's sports it started later than the men and is in the process of catching up. We didn't see any reason to change the ratios. On the whole, the public prefers men's tennis."

The 14 per cent rise has been implemented to take account of fluctuating exchange rates as tennis becomes ever more international. After the sterling slide in September, the extra money was needed to keep Wimbledon in line with the other grand-slam events. The increases will also make life easier for the lesser lights of the championships, with first-round men's losers earning £4,575.

There are improvements for the spectators, too. After the success of last year's experiment in allocating 2,000 centre court tickets on the middle Saturday to the faithful who queue outside the ground, the arrangement will be repeated. The tickets will be on sale at £20, a reduction of £8 on normal tickets, and the only difference this year is that the seats will be reserved, allowing the spectators to leave the court and return later.

☐ Boris Becker was knocked out of the Madrid Open 6-2, 6-2 in the first round by Franco Davin, of Argentina, yesterday. Becker has not won a match in the three successive clay-court tournaments in which he has played.

TOMORROW

The Times offers the chance to win a trip to Las Vegas for the world heavyweight boxing title bout between Lennox Lewis and Tony Tucker

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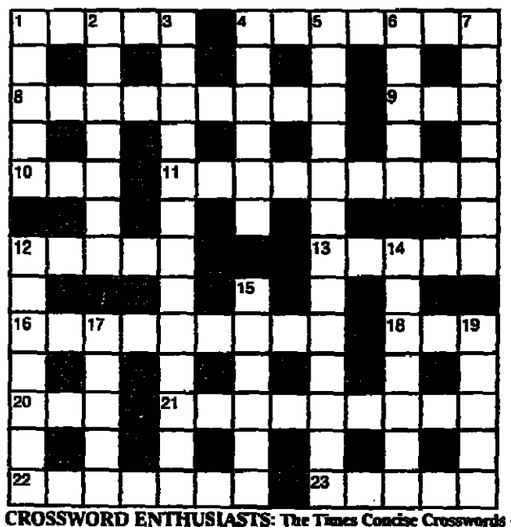
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4 Repress (3,4)
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9 Hostelry (3)
10 However (3)
11 Two weeks (9)
12 Swagger (5)
13 Overturn (3,2)
16 Bring to end (9)
18 Illuminated (3)
20 Cattle noise (3)
21 Oceanic gull (9)
22 Leading woman (7)
23 Down duck (5)

DOWN
1 Very pale (5)
2 Referee (7)
3 Mourning deeply (5,8)
4 Monastery (6)
5 Conforming (6,3,4)
6 Due (5)
7 Incessant (7)
12 Arranged (7)
14 Dehorn cattle (7)
15 Fortress (6)
17 Disorderly (5)
19 Belonging to them (5)

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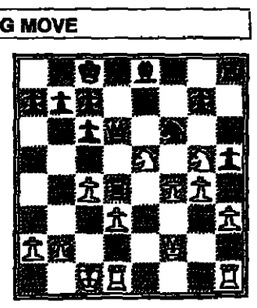
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WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



This position is from the game Milos — van Riemsdyk, Sao Paulo 1993. Black's rook has strayed into the middle of the board. How did white exploit this?

Solution on page 36

Championship Chess, page 8

WORD-WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD

CAUCHO
a. A Peruvian cowboy
b. Rubber
c. A musical direction

THAKALI
a. A Greek hors d'oeuvre
b. A Nepalese language
c. A Phoenician goddess

RATHITE
a. A kind of lead
b. A South American sloth
c. A rats' nest

LUAU
a. A Polynesian grass skirt
b. A Hawaiian party
c. An Aboriginal woman

Answers on page 36